The German Tribune

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

Hamburg, 19 June 1977
Sixteenth Year - No. 792 - By air

C 20725 C

Bonn intensifies its Latin American ties

Walter Scheel, who has been given as cordial a reception in Mexico as he was in Costa Rica, regards his role as the country's foremost representative abroad differently than his predecessors were either able or willing to do.

When Theodor Heuss, Federal President from 1949 till 1959, travelled abroad, his journeys constituted a first, hesitant attempt to integrate the western part of Germany in the family of nations.

Heinrich Lübke, head of State from 1959 till 1969, symbolised the establishment of ties between a Federal Republic that was coming into its own economically and the newly-independent colonies of other European powers.

Gustav Heinemann's travels during his tenure from 1969 till 1974 brought this process to a conclusion, as it were. He chose to visit sensitive neighbouring countries, such as the Netherlands, with a view to contributing towards international reconciliation in the wake of successful intergovernmental [illegible].

Dr Heinemann's successor holds the view that State visits nowadays only make sense when undertaken not too frequently, but with a definite objective in view. This year Walter Scheel is concentrating on Latin America.

His aim is to indicate to this part of the Western world that the Federal Republic is keenly interested in its progress and in intensifying what have, for the most part, been traditionally good relations with individual countries.

It was no coincidence that he opted for Costa Rica and Mexico although, in protocol terms, they were next on the list. Brazil, for instance, would have been liable to misinterpretation as an anti-American gesture in view of the clash with Washington over Bonn's nuclear deal with Brasilia.

As long as human rights continue to trodden under foot in Chile there can be no question of a State visit to Santiago, while in Venezuela or, for that matter, Jamaica, Herr Scheel would have come in for criticism of Bonn's role in the North-South dialogue.

So the choice fell on Costa Rica, with which there are no bilateral problems whatever, and Mexico, where President José Lopez Portillo is clearly aiming to strike a balance between the industrialised countries and the Third World.

In Costa Rica President Scheel's visit was acclaimed as a major event. Wherever he went he encountered sympathy and was accorded a heartfelt welcome.

Costa Rican President Daniel Oduber Quiros courteously requested advice how his country, with a population of two million, but keen to learn, might seek to emulate the Federal Republic.

The consultations between Bonn Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher and his Costa Rican opposite number, Gonzalo Facio, were uncommonly harmonious in the course they took.

Both sides fully agreed on human rights and the New International Economic Order was only [illegible]sing. In Costa Rica President Scheel and his party did not come in contact with the hardship of the masses in Latin America because Costa Rica is untypical of the continent in every respect.

Costa Rica, which is frequently dubbed the Switzerland of Latin America, has no armed forces, but it can lay claim to a relatively extensive educational system and a social security scheme.

Third World problems only confronted Herr Scheel when he set foot in Mexico. Ex-President Echeverria was largely responsible for drafting the developing countries' catalogue of demands levelled at the rich northern hemisphere.

Mexico, with a population of 63 million, has run up $30,000 million in debts and owes the industrialised nations more than any other single country.

Its trading balance is in a state of chronic deficit even though the country has substantial reserves of raw materials, but newly-located oil reserves should mean that Mexico will be one of the world's leading oil exporters before long. [illegible] ever, that an additional 800,000 jobs a year will need creating unless the country's four million unemployed are steadily to increase in number.

Mexico is keenly interested in selling more goods in Europe, especially in this country. It is also keenly interested in investment by the Federal Republic. Mexico will certainly not be able to solve its problems without close cooperation from the industrialised world.

At the beginning of Walter Scheel's visit President Lopez Portillo expressed a desire for more intensive economic and political cooperation with Bonn that is shared by Latin AMerica as a whole.

There can be no mistaking the fact that the present intensity of ties in no way corresponds to the importance Latin America attaches to relations with Europe in general and this country in particular.

Ties at present only amount to much in the industrial sector, and then only in respect of private investment.

Yet it is none too easy for Bonn to [illegible] apparent at a conference of Federal Republic ambassadors over which Herr Genscher presided at San Jose, Costa Rica.

The Latin Americans expect Europe to help them redress the balance of the overwhelming US influence in their part of the world, whereas Bonn would prefer not to singe Uncle Sam's beard.

Bonn has chosen to maintain studious silence abut the Canal Zone and has no views on the argument voiced in Latin America that Fidel Castro will only be able to slip the Kremlin's bear-hug once the West has reappraised its relationship with Cuba.

As yet neither President Scheel nor Foreign Minister Genscher are in a position to outline what might be deemed a more active policy towards Latin America.

Udo Bergdoll

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 10 June 1977)



Enthusiastic crowds welcomed this country's President Walter Scheel and his wife Mildred during his three-day visit to Costa Rica. Scheel, who was also accompanied by Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, is seen here leaving the Central Bank's gold museum in San Jose. (Photo: dpa)

IN THIS ISSUE

Foreign policy is heading in the right direction

It was high time this country paid Latin America greater attention, and President Scheel's State visits to Costa Rica and Mexico must be viewed as a gesture of mutual understanding and support for an entire continent that is undergoing fundamental changes. It only goes to show that Bonn's foreign policy is heading in the right direction.

Walter Scheel's visit has certainly come at a time when things are on the move in Latin America. President Carter at long last proposes to make good the longstanding US undertaking to treat the Latin Americans as equal partners.

Differ though they may in many respects, all Latin American countries regard the conclusion of a new Panama Canal treaty and normalisation of US ties with Cuba as the touchstones of Washington' honest intentions.

These issues do not directly affect Bonn, but great store is nonetheless set by this country and the influence it may be able to exert in helping many countries to emerge from an inordinately one-sided dependence on the United States.

This particularly applies to Mexico, which is one of President Scheel's ports of call. The way in which the dispute between Bonn, Washington and Brazil over this country's nuclear deal with Brasilia was recently settled gives reason to assume that other countries may also relish the prospect of nuclear cooperation without overstraining Bonn's ties with the United States.

But if Mexico were to envisage generating nuclear power with Bonn's assistance this country would need to tread carefully. Mexico is not, by any stretch of the imagination, a country to cherish hopes of nuclear grandeur, but the United States would undoubtedly be more than irked to be pipped at the nuclear post by a rival exporter on its own back door yet again.

This country would do well to avoid any development that might raise the spectre of another nuclear "crisis," but there is no reason either to exercise embarrassed restraint or to forgo the commercial benefits that might ensue.

Manfred Neuber

(Die Welt, 10 June 1977)

■ FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Berlin question closely linked with security conference in Belgrade

Berlin will not be on the agenda of the preliminary talks in Belgrade in preparation for the Helsinki follow-up conference, which is just as it should be. The Four Powers retain responsibility for the divided city and must continue to do so.

The Helsinki accords expressly state that the resolutions of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe in no way affect Allied rights and obligations and the treaties, agreements and arrangements by which they are governed.

In the addresses by the US, British and French leaders and by Bonn Chancellor Helmut Schmidt to the Helsinki conference the West merely expressed the hope and desire that Berlin might participate in the benefits that accrued from the Helsinki Agreement. East bloc leaders did not demur.

It was, however, appreciated that any practical benefit Berlin might derive from an improvement in East-West relations must be based on strict observation and full application of the 1971 Four-Power Agreement on the divided city.

The mere fact that Germany and Berlin did not figure prominently on the Helsinki agenda could in itself be rated a success, since such issues as might have given rise to disagreement had already been dealt with in a succession of treaties between Bonn and the East bloc

This put paid to any danger there might have been of the Helsinki conference assuming the proportions of a major post-war conference on Germany.

The lie of the land in Berlin is nonetheless closely linked with matters of European security dealt with in Helsinki and shortly to be reviewed in Belgrade.

Practical improvements in and in connection with Berlin have always been a *sine qua non* for a European security conference as far as the West in general and this country in particular were concerned.

The West felt this prerequisite had been fulfilled with the signing of the Four-Power Agreement, which thus constitutes the groundwork of all subsequent attempts to improve European security by means of East-West accords.

Were one of the Four Powers to renege on or fail fully to respect its Four-Power Agreement undertakings, other East-West agreements on European security that come under the general heading of detente would not only be jeopardised; they would, to all intents and purposes, no longer apply.

The Soviet Union regularly reassures the West that fears on this score are unwarranted. Despite disputes on points of interpretation the practical improvements for people in the three Western sectors of the city which the West had demanded continue to apply.

By the terms of the transit agreement traffic to and from Berlin is running smoothly, as are the provisions of the agreement on family visits and tourist traffic.

But these practical improvements, the Soviet Union argues, are closely linked in turn with other sections of the Four-Power Agreement which must be observed if these improvements are to be maintained.

In principle this line of argument is similarly beyond reproach. The advantages that have been gained as a result of the agreement are naturally based on the assurances given by the three Western Powers to the Soviet Union on the special status of the three Western sectors in view of the Four-Power status of Berlin as a whole.

The West is fully aware of the delicate balance that is implicit in the terms of the Four-Power Agreement. Dietrich Stobbe, the recently-elected may of West Berlin, noted in his policy statement that he had every intention of maintaining a sense of proportion in implementing the terms of the treaty.

The Soviet Union, however, has repeatedly warned that this balance of the Four-Power Agreement is being upset by the actions of the Federal Republic and West Berlin.

The balance is invariably felt to have been upset whenever it is a matter of either exercising and developing the ties between West Berlin and the Federal Republic within the limits laid down in the Four-Power Agreement or representing the interests of the three Western sectors abroad, as the Federal government is permitted to do within similarly specified limits, or, finally, of West Berlin's status as part of the European Community.

... the Soviet Union is insisting that the West, in the alleged interest of maintaining the balance of the agreement, accept the one-sided and restricted Soviet interpretation of the terms of the Four-Power Agreement.

Then, and then only, does the Soviet Union propose to consent to "full participation by West Berlin in world affairs."

Continual protests, objections and polemical broadsides basically run counter to the Soviet interest in making out the "West Berlin Question" to have been fully settled.

So it seems fair to assume that the long-term Soviet objective is further "clarification."

The Four-Power Agreement in point of fact neither "clarified" nor "settled" the Berlin Question. It merely established a *modus vivendi* based on the readiness of the Soviet Union and the West to agree to differ on the status of the divided city.

The Four Powers agreed to little more than to let sleeping dogs lie and not to get bogged down in arguments over post-war developments in the legal status of Berlin.

It was thus most significant that the Soviet Union chose to embark on measures within its own sphere of influence which called the basis of this *modus vivendi* into question.

When the Four Powers concluded the 1971 Agreement they did so "on the basis of their joint rights and responsibilities and relevant wartime and post-war decisions."

The Soviet Union now argues that the Western Powers are no longer entitled to refer to these rights and responsibilities now the Four-Power Agreement has come into force.

What is more, Moscow allowed the GDR to dispense with a number of special arrangements regarding East Berlin which might be interpreted as evidence of the residual Four-Power status of the city as a whole.

The Soviet Union tried to persuade the West that the GDR was acting on the basis of a power of attorney that had long since been vested in it and which Moscow was neither able nor willing to withdraw.

... had no effect on the facts of the matter, but were mainly intended to remind the Soviet Union that it cannot evade responsibility for the situation in Berlin.

In its latest move, which was aimed at Allied military patrols in East Berlin, the Soviet Union chose to adopt a different approach.

Moscow consulted the US, British and French governments in an attempt to persuade them to make no further use of their right to freedom of movement throughout Berlin, a freedom exercised by the sending of military patrols into East Berlin.

The Soviet Union did not go so far as to suggest that it had any further moves in mind. It merely argued that the patrols were based on an outmoded legal practice and were, in other words, obsolete.

The intention was to induce the West to acknowledge by virtue of moves finally taken that there is no longer any foundation for the exercise of rights in Berlin as a whole.

In a Berlin declaration made in London on 9 May in the wake of the Western economic summit the three Western Powers made it clear that the Soviet Union need not expect them to do anything of the kind.

The West emphasised that it will continue to refute any attempt to call in question the rights and responsibilities of the Four Powers with regard to Germany as a whole and to all four sectors of Berlin.

So it is now up to the Soviet Union to decide whether ot not it is going to undertake unilateral action jeopardising the *Modus vivendi* reached with the three Western Powers on 3 September 1971, bearing in mind that the Four-Power Agreement forms part of the groundwork of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and a *sine qua non* of the Helsinki accords.

(Der Tagesspiegel, 5 June 1977)

Development policy is policy of peace

What Egon Bahr had to say in Moscow was, in a nutshell, that development policy is a policy of peace. Just as peace is not the responsibility of a single country or group of countries, development aid is the responsibility of all the world's "rich" countries regardless of the origins of their prosperity.

When the Helsinki accords were signed in 1975 a viewpoint expressed in the Third World was that the rich hemisphere was prepared to relax East-West tension while allowing the North-South conflict to simmer on.

Tension continues along the Mediterranean periphery of the CSCE countries and on into the Middle East, which only goes to show that peace in one region only is wishful thinking. Viewed in this light development policy is a positive policy of peace.

There are many junctures at which East and West might join forces on the South's behalf: cooperation on specific projects, joint endeavours on international bodies and in respect of international funds and, last but not least, three-cornered deals involving Third World, Western and East bloc countries.

These could well be deemed confidence-inspiring measures by the terms of the Helsinki accords. Closer ties within a fair system of world trade mean not only higher living standards for all concerned but also brighter prospects of peace.

(Vorwärts, 2 June 1977)

Aid to Zambia to be increased

Bonn is to aid Zambia within the framework of bilateral financial and technological cooperation over and above commitments hitherto undertaken, Marie Schlei, Minister of Economic Cooperation, was able to tell President Kenneth Kaunda on 5 June.

On her recent tour of Frau Schlei promised the Zambian government seventy million deutschmarks in capital assistance. The ceiling is now to be ... to eighty million marks, ... which nineteen million are tied to imports from this country.

During talks with President Kaunda at Gymnich Castle, near Bonn, it was agreed to undertake future commitments in respect of non-refundable technological assistance for periods of two years rather than a mere twelve months.

Over the next two years aid under this heading will total six and a half million marks, plus a further one million marks in aid to refugees.

In talks with Bonn Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher Zambian Foreign Minister Siteke Mwale made it clear that his country continues to favour a peaceful settlement of conflicts in Southern Africa.

If, however, peaceful settlements prove unattainable Zambia will not be able to turn a deaf ear to the demands of liberation movements.

(Die Welt, 6 June 1977)

The German Tribune

Publisher: Friedrich Reinecke. Editor-in-Chief: Otto Heinz. Editor: Alexander Anthony. English language sub-editor: Henry P. Sanders. — Distribution Manager: Georgine von Platen. Advertising Manager: Peter Boeckmann.

Friedrich Reinecke Verlag GmbH. 23 Schoene Aussicht, Hamburg 76. Tel.: 22 85 1. Telex: 02 14733. Bonn bureau: 65 Adenauerallee, 53 Bonn. Tel.: 21 90 00, Telex: 08 86398.

Advertising rates list No. 12 — Annual subscription DM 35.

Printed by Krögers Buch- und Verlagsdruckerei, Hamburg-Blankenese. Distributed in USA by: MASS MAILINGS, Inc. 540 West 24th Street, New York, N.Y. 10011.

All articles which THE GERMAN TRIBUNE reprint are published in cooperation with the editorial staffs of leading newspapers of the Federal Republic of Germany. They are complete translations of the original text, in no way abridged nor editorially redrafted. THE GERMAN TRIBUNE also publishes quarterly supplements featuring articles selected from German periodicals.

In all correspondence please quote your subscription number which appears on the wrapper to the left of your address.

■ POLITICS

Despite some new names, the old conflicts remain

Ekkehard Gries

At party-political conferences and gatherings in the first week of June decisions were reached on people and ideas that are bound to have repercussions in Bonn.

The course of the conferences, not to mention the attendant radio and newspaper interviews, leaves little doubt that the parties represented in the Bonn Bundestag are in a state of flux.

Christian Democrats Kurt Biedenkopf and Norbert Blüm, both of whom will not be particularly popular with the CSU, the CDU's Bavarian ally, have succeeded in gaining invaluable power bases.

Kurt Biedenkopf was elected chairman of the Christian Dempcratic Union's Westphalia-Lippe region. Norberg Blüm was voted chairman of the CDA, the Christian Democrats' working-class wing.

In Hesse, where the Free Democrats are standing by their coalition with the Social Democrats in order not to upset the SPD-FDP coalition applecart in Bonn, Klaus-Jürgen Hoffie failed more narrowly than anticipated in the leadership elections.

The new FDP leader in Hesse is Ekkehard Gries, Hesse Minister of the Interior and the candidate backed by Wolfgang Mischnik, his predecessor.

Herr Gries is in favour of maintaining the coalition with the Social Democrats, Herr Hoffie would prefer the Free Democrats to wage election campaigns without a firm coalition commitment.

Left-wing regional leaders were confirmed as Social Democratic party chairman in Stuttgart and Hanover, Erhard Eppler being re-elected in Baden-Württemberg and Peter von Oertzen in Lower Saxony.

In sounding a warning against the formation of factions Erhard Eppler provided critics such as Bundestag deputies Peter Corterier and Ernst Haar with an opportunity of pointing out that this was an offence of which he had been guilty at national level.

In West Berlin, on the other hand, SPD right-wingers reckoned to have consolidated their position by securing the election of Lothar Löffler as regional chairman.

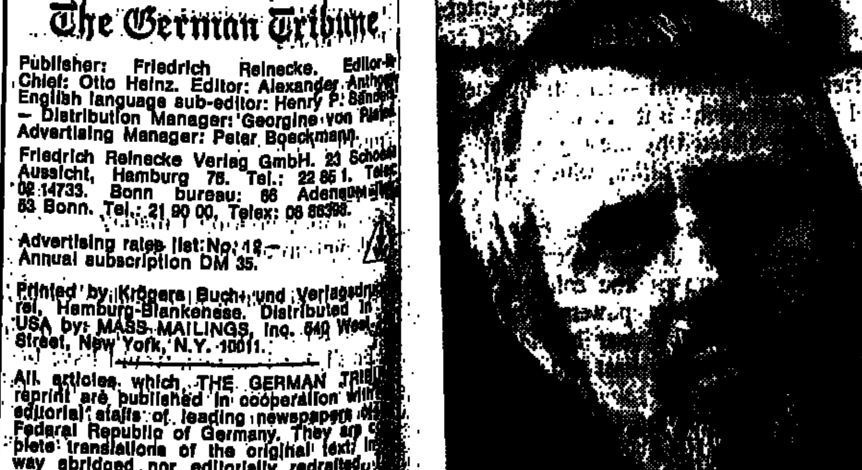
The only Social Democratic post that has recently been put to the vote without being rated controversial in one way or another was that of chairwoman of the SPD women's organisation. Elfriede Hoffmann, 51, was voted successor to Elfriede Eilers by a comfortable majority. There were a mere forty noes and she was the only candidate.

But elections have by no means been alone in bearing witness to party-political strife. Franz Josef Strauss, writing in *Bild am Sonntag*, was scathing in his criticism of CDU proposals to reduce unemployment They smacked of Social Democracy, he claimed.

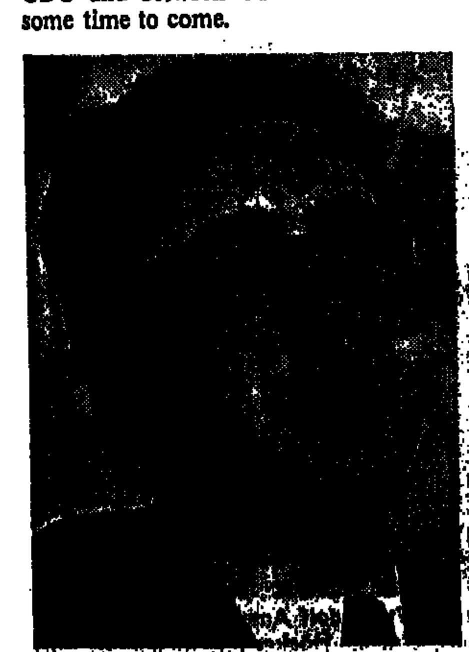
The proposals were leaked to the Bavarian leader before CDU general secretary Heiner Geissler had time to explain them to Herr Strauss. The CDU national executive will shortly vote on a revised version of the draft, which has also come in for criticism by Kurt Biedenkopf. Professor Biedenkopf would, of course, like to ensure that the views of the party region he now heads are those of the CDU as a whole.

He did, however, point out in an interview that he would like to amend CDU policy on both foreign affairs and welfare, where again the party as a whole has come in for criticism from the Bavarian CSU.

Kurt Biedenkopf would like to formulate clear alternatives to the government's policies on these issues, but there can be little doubt that they will be a bone of contention both within the CDU and between CDU and CSU for some time to come.



Peter von Oertzen



Erhard Eppler

Klaus-Jürgen Hoffie

(Photos: Sven Simon, Deutscher Bundestag, dpa)

The CSU, unlike, say, the CDU view personified by Ernst Albrecht and Walther Leisler Kiep in Hanover, is evidently resolved to fight the SPD-FDP coalition in Bonn tooth and nail, utilising every opportunity of contesting the constitutionality of government legislation. This transpired from a recent letter circularised among CSU MPs in Bonn by the CSU's parliamentary party leader Friedrich Zimmermann.

In an interview with *Süddeutscher Rundfunk* Ernst Albrecht, the Premier of Lower Saxony, continued his policy of being nice to the Free Democrats, with whom he is in coalition in Hanover.

Free and Social Democrats no longer have much in common, he claimed. By 1980 at the latest there will have to be a change of government in Bonn.

If the Christian Democrats were to decide at national level that the time ... policy towards the Free Democrats, the CDU in Lower Saxony would not feel bound by the decision for the time being at least, he said.

In Lower Saxony the Christian Democrats intended to govern in coalition with the Free Democrats for the duration of the present state assembly at the very least — and even longer as far as he was concerned.

Strategic debates within the CDU and CSU, the Bonn Opposition parties, provided the Social Democrats with a welcome opportunity of going on to the offensive in view of the SPD's own disarray.

Hans-Jürgen Wischnewski, Minister of State at the Chancellor's Office, claimed at an SPD congress in Swabia that the Opposition had three options.

Either they courted the Free Democrats with a view to driving a wedge between the FDP and the SPD, which, he said, was the policy favoured by Shadow Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

Or they drafted a programme of alternatives to the policy pursued by the Federal [illegible] an absolute majority for the CDU/CSU, this being the approach favoured by Kurt Biedenkopf.

Or they endeavoured to gain an absolute majority by virtue of tooth-and-nail [illegible] the Federal government without indicating what alternatives they proposed to offer. This, Herr Wischnewski maintained, was the strategy favoured by Alfred Dregger of the [illegible] by the Bavarian [illegible] would involve the political [illegible] the FDP.

SPD leader Willy Brandt again expressed [illegible] about the possibility of Alfred Dregger [illegible] the mantle of Shadow Chancellor.

Were Alfred Dregger and Franz Josef

Continued on page 11

Power struggle in the lower ranks

Interesting party-political changes are currently taking place on the lower rungs of the ladder, and they are more significant than changes at the top in Bonn, where Chancellor Schmidt is unlikely to tolerate a personal challenge.

A Social Democrat who is going places in Horst Ehmke, who was personally sacked by Helmut Schmidt as Minister at the Chancellor's Office, but is now second only to Herbert Wehner as leader of the parliamentary party.

Herr Wehner is no longer a young man and is having to delegate more responsibility, while Helmut Schmidt's personal choice as crown prince, as it were, Finance Minister Hans Apel, burnt his fingers over the proposed increase in value-added tax.

Horst Ehmke is a hard worker, and so is Kurt Biedenkopf, the former general secretary of the Christian Democrats, who is beavering away at a new power base in Westphalia. Both share an instinct for power.

There can be little doubt that Kurt Biedenkopf's ambition is to help ensure a lasting CDU majority in North Rhine-Westphalia and to boost his own prospects of heading either the state government in Düsseldorf or the Federal government in Bonn in the eighties.

Professor Biedenkopf is busy working his way up from the grass roots, and it looks as though any politician with serious intentions of working his way up to the top will likewise have to ...

In Munich it should not be long before Franz Josef Strauss takes over as Bavarian Premier. He has long been dissatisfied with the arrogant behaviour of party and government officials who have spent too long in power.

Herr Strauss has been talking in terms of the administration coming closer to the people and he is not the man to beat about the bush when it comes to expressing dislike of exaggerated experiments in technocracy.

He will be a tough taskmaster in Munich, but no longer ever-present in Bonn. Who, one wonders, is in the running to represent Bavaria in Bonn as more than a mere cipher for Herr Strauss?

In Hesse ex-Premier Albert Osswald is slowly but surely being edged out of party office, and Rudi Arndt, the outgoing mayor of Frankfurt, will never be the same again either.

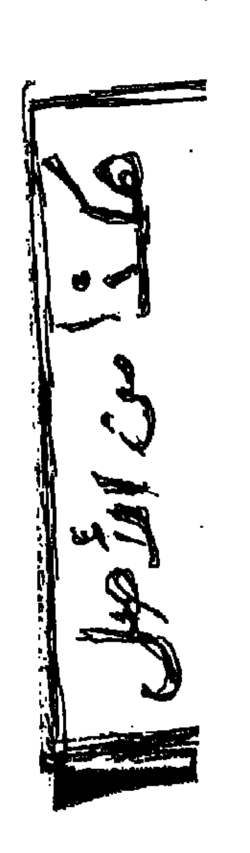
Oberbürgermeister-elect Walter Wallmann, a Christian Democrat, is the new man in Frankfurt, and Alfred Dregger, leader of the Hesse CDU, is preparing to take oven the state administration in Wiesbaden.

The Christian Democrats have yet to gain power in either Hesse of North Rhine-Westphalia, of course, so the prospect of Franz Josef Strauss, Alfred Dregger and Kurt Biedenkopf as state Premiers would take some getting used to.

Less is heard of the Free Democrats, junior partners of the Social Democrats in Bonn and elsewhere. The FDP is engaged in an agonising reappraisal, and it is already evident that the FDP could not conduct another general election campaign at the moment on the basis of a coalition with the Social Democrats. The SPD is looking too ragged. Prospects look poor.

Robert Schmelzer

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 3 June 1977)



On 7 May 1947, Bavaria's Prime Minister Hans Ehard (CSU) invited the Prime Ministers of all *Länder* (administrative regions which, before the Federal Republic of Germany was founded, roughly corresponded to the British counties) in the four occupation zones to take part in a conference in Munich. The conference, held on 6 and 7 June 1947, was to deliberate on ways and means of "preventing the German people from sliding into a hopeless economic and politicial chaos." Ehard justified this initiative, arguing that the Bavarian government intended to "pave the way for a cooperation of all *Länder* of Germany for the purpose of achieving a future economic and political union." The main objectives of the conference were thus to provide an all-German initiative on a federalistic basis and to mitigate the economic and political misery in occupied Germany.

■ HISTORY

The conference that marked the parting of the ways

The initiative of Bavaria's government occurred in a post-war phase in which common objectives on the part of the Allied occupation powers were more and more supplanted by controversies concerning their policy towards Germany.

As the global political and ideological conflicts of the "Anti-Hitler Coalition" intensified, occupied Germany was drawn into these conflicts more and more.

The decisive change of course was ushered in by the new US Secretary of State George C. Marshall who was sworn in on 21 January 1947 after his predecessor, James F. Byrnes, had failed in his efforts to continue on the course charted by the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt and cooperate or at least come to terms with the Soviet Union.

Marshalls' concept was based on a global confrontation strategy concerning the Soviet Union aimed at preventing further advances of Communism along

Kennan was the head of the newly established planning staff at the American State Department.

The abortive Foreign Minister's Conference of the four ocupation powers in Moscow, which took place from 10 March to 24 April 1947, showed that the differences between the United States and Britain on the one hand and the Soviet Union on the other concerning the German question were irreconcilable.

At that time France had not yet taken a definite stand for either party and tried to mediate between East and West.

Two days after the Moscow conference began, Harry S. Truman isued a statement committing his country politically and militarily in the eastern Mediterranean (Greece and Turkey).

With his 5 June 1947 speech at Harvard University, Secretary of State Marshall ushered in his European Reconstruction Programme in which West Germany was to play a key role.

This new course in US foreign policy, encompassing the Truman Doctrine and the Marshall Plan, led to decisions aimed at a political and economic restructuring of Germany and, finally, to its division into two parts.

A first step in this development was the merger of the American and British occupation zones to form the so-called bizone which took place on 1 January 1947.

US Military Governor General Lucius D. Clay, a personal friend of former Secretary of State Byrnes and advocate of a reconciliation with the Soviet Union, initially welcomed the Bavarian government's initiative, hoping that an all-German Prime Ministers Conference could defuse the "struggle for Germany" within the East-West conflict and that it would strengthen the German *Länder*.

But the more General Clay saw himself confronted with the necessity of pursuing Secretary of State Marshall's hard line policy of strength vis-a-vis the Soviet Union, the more he lost interest in Ehard's project — though not actually putting a stop to it.

Britain, on the other hand, had from the very beginning disliked Bavaria's initiative, although not opposing it outright once General Clay had accepted it.

The reasons which induced the Soviet and French occupation powers to permit the Prime Ministers of the *Länder* in their zones to take part in the Munich conference are still unclear.

But both powers gave their permission conditionally: The Soviet Union made its permission contingent on the political unity of Germany being a topic of discussion. This was in clear contrast to the "special objectives" of the bizone.

The French, on the other hand, insisted that only pressing economic questions be discussed.

Should the political and national reconstruction of Germany as a state become a subject of discussion, France reserved the right to revoke its approval of the conference — an approval it was last to grant, having waited to do so until 30 May 1947.

Although the German public welcomed Ehard's invitation, there was nevertheless a great deal of criticism as well. The points that gave rise to dispute can

• The political parties suspected that Ehard's initiative could jeopardise their claim to representation of the German people on a national scale and that this initiative could result in the *Länder* Prime Ministers being entrusted with the all-German mandate.

Such fears were particularly prominent among representatives of the SPD, FDP and the SED (the latter being now the GDR's ruling Communist Party).

• Other critics viewed Ehard's initiative as an attempt to prevent centralisation in the bizone and to preserve the rights of the *Länder*. They also saw in it Bavaria's wish to demonstrate "loyalty to the Reich".

Prime Minister Ehard had secretly already commissioned the draft of a "Treaty for the Formation of a Confederation of German *Länder*". This was to be organised in the form of a league of states and was intended to enable Bavaria to play the role of a *primus inter pares*.

• The SPD under the chairmanship of Kurt Schumacher steadfastly rejected any discussion of all-German questions with SED prepresentatives before the SPD in the Soviet occupied zone (where it had been forced into a union with the Communist Party of Germany to form the SED against the will of the majority of its members) had once more been admitted as a free party.

Under no circumstances was the SPD willing to contribute towards improving the SED's image by political concessions or by all-German talks with that party.

• The CDU/CSU only partly identified itself with Ehard's conference idea. While, apart from the CSU, it was primarily the CDU in Berlin and the Soviet occupied zone (its chairman Jakob Kaiser favoured a "national representation" of all German parties) which had a positive attitude towards the plan, the CDU in the British zone under its chairman, Konrad Adenauer, was sceptical and adopted an attitude of aloofness rather than encouragement.

Due to the international political constellation and its effect on the four powers' policy vis-a-vis Germany and due to the fundamental differences among German party leaders and Prime

under an unlucky star.

The meeting was doomed to failure unless the German delegates from the East and the West settled their differences by reaching a compromise.

Bound by instructions, the *Länder* representatives of the Soviet zone (Wilhelm Höcker/Mecklenburg, Kurt Fischer/Saxony, Erhard Hübener/Saxony-Anhalt, Rudolf Paul/Thuringia and Karl Steinhoff/Brandenburg) demanded as a fundamental precondition for negotiations that the already drawn up agenda be changed and that the following be introduced as item one:

"The formation of a central German administration through agreement on the part of the democratic German parties and the trade unions and that a united German state be created."



All-German conference in Munich 1947: (from left) Rudolf Amelunxen (Northrhine-Westphalia), Erhard Hübener (Saxony-Anhalt), Wilhelm Höcker (Mecklenburg), Kurt Fischer (Saxony), and Wilhelm Kaisen (Bremen) (Photo: Süddeutscher Verlag)

Virtually all SPD Prime Ministers (above all Max Brauer/Hamburg, Hermann Lüdemann/Schleswig-Holstein and Christian Stock/Hesse) rejected this item due to the specific experience concerning the unification by force of their party with the Communist Party of Germany in the Soviet occupied zone.

Mediation attempts by Baden-Württemberg's Prime Minister Reinhold Maier (FDP/DVP) and the Bremen Mayor Wilhelm Kaisen (SPD) failed - not least because the representatives from the French zone (Leo Wohleb/Baden, CDU, Wilhelm Boden/Rhineland-Palatinate, CDU, and Carlo Schmid/Württemberg-Hohenzollern, SPD) objected on the strength of reservations by their occupation power.

Since Ehard refused to accede to the wishes of the delegates from the Soviet zone, the latter left the decisive preliminary talks of the Prime Ministers in the night from 5 to 6 June 1947. Höcker and Fischer packed their bags and left.

Thus the all-German conference was abortive even before its official beginning on 6 June 1947.

Ferdinand Friedensburg (CDU), Deputy Mayor of Berlin, whose official representative was Mayoress Louise Schroeder (SPD), attempted, supported by Kaiser, to arrive at a compromise with the three Prime Ministers still present in Munich, namely Paul, Hübener and Steinhoff. But the mediation attempts failed.

Ehard obviously wanted to avoid the risk of concessions towards the SED, which would have meant that SPD Prime Ministers would leave the conference and thus cause it to fail even as a mere "rump" of a conference.

This conference, in which only the *Länder* representatives of the Western zones and Berlin took part, dealt with the various issues in accordance with the agenda and under the chairmanship of Ehard on 6 and 7 June 1947.

All issues concerned the most important problems of the day such as German prisoners of war, the food shortage and its consequences, national health, the economic malaise, refugee problems and, finally, the drafting of occupation statutes.

Following a proposal by Max Brauer/Hamburg (who had emigrated to America and returned), the conference passed an appeal to all Germans who had been driven from their country by National Socialism to return home.

The Munich Prime Ministers Conference remained for more than twenty years the first and only all-German dialogue of importance between East and West after World War II.

The next talks across the border that separates the two Germanies did not take place until 1970 when Chancellor Willy Brandt met Willi Stoph, the head of the GDR government.

The failure of the "all-German enterprise" reflects the estrangement of Germans in East and West only two years after the capitulation — an estrangement which, although not exclusively, was frequently affected by the tug-of-war between the former allies, which had by then spread to Germany.

The months and years to come saw the continuation of the Second World War in the form of the cold war between the victorious powers. And the more inplacable this war became the more did Germans in East and West become estranged.

The founding of the Federal Republic of Germany and the GDR was among other things a result of this long process of estrangement, which is closely linked with the division of Germany.

Hans Georg Lehmann

(Das Parlament, 4 June 1977)

■ EMPLOYMENT

Powerful upswing is key to full employment



Given a 5 per cent annual growth, full employment could be achieved by 1980. With a mini growth of 3 per cent, on the other hand, unemployment would reach the two million mark by that time. And should the growth rate be somewhere between the two figures it would take until 1990 before full employment could ge achieved.

These are the conclusions of model calculations carried out by the *Institut der Deutschen Wirtschaft* (IW) — Institute of the German Economy — concerning the development on the labour market until the year 2000.

The IW researchers presuppose a drop in the population in this country of six million by the year 2000. In this instance the drop in residents would concern exclusively German citizens while the number of foreigners in this country would rise slightly.

The baby boom of the sixties will increase the working population by 1.2 million to a total of 27.5 million by 1987. In the years to follow, however, the number of working people would again diminish by two million.

This means that the phase of underemployment would extend over a period of between ten and fifteen years and would then develop into a phase of full and indeed overemployment.

The focal problem concerning the labour market would therefore centre around the years 1980 to 1985. With this in mind, IW warns against any shortening of working times since this might aggravate the problem of overemployment (in other words, labour shortage) in the 1990s.

The researchers stress that their calculations should not be understood as a forecast, but as a "reality-oriented model calculation". Four alternatives present themselves as a result of these calculations:

1. Given a "maxi-cycle", the economy would grow at an annual rate of 5 per cent until 1980, and from then on growth would diminish to 4 per cent during the next decade.

This would bring about a sustained reduction of unemployment from about one million in 1976 to 600,000 in 1980, and by 1990 unemployment would be down to a fluctuating 300,000. From then on labour would be in short supply, and by 1995 there will be 1.2 million jobs going begging.

2. Given a "midi-cycle" with an average annual growth of 4 per cent in real terms until 1990 the Federal Republic of Germany would have to contend with millions of jobless until the late eighties, and full employment would not be realisable until 1991.

3. Assuming a "mini-cycle" with a 3 per cent growth until 1980 and 2 por cent in the decade to follow, unemployment would rise to 1.8 million by 1980 and reach 3 million by 1990. And even on the threshold to the year 2000 we would still be short 1.6 million jobs. The very foundations of our economic structure would be shaken, says the study.

4. With zero growth the situation would be even more grim. The next decade would sea 5 million people on the dole, reaching 7 million in the nineties, while a mere 20 million would be employed.

The Institute would like its calculations to serve as a warning that full employment will be contingent on dynamic growth in the years to come.

IW concedes, however, that there are many imponderable factors involved.

While in November 1976, when the study was conpleted, the pundits still assumed that a maxi-cycle was likely in the future, they now opt for a midi-cycle as the more realistic possibility.

The labour market problems of the next decades, say the IW researchers, can only be solved by an aggressive growth strategy.

They advise that short-term and hasty actions be avoided and point to the high responsibilites that will rest with the parties in collective bargaining.

The study points out that "pessimism over growth prospects for the years to come is out of place from today's vantage point."

Peter Gillies

(Die Welt, 7 June 1977)

Is retirement at 60 a solution?

There are internal differences of opinion within the CDU/CSU camp concerning employment policies.

CSU's Franz Josef Strauss and CDU's Kurt Biedenkopf criticised plans discussed — although not yet passed — among the CDU leadership. These would involve child ... one parent, the gradual extension of the vocational training year and off-the-job training facilities and the temporary lowering of the flexible retirement age to 60.

Strauss charges the CDU with having borrowed part of its programme from the Social Democrats. But should this be a reason to reject it out of hand? Strauss' other objection, however, namely that the plan is financially unsound, must be taken more seriously.

It is quite obvious that it would mean no more than shifting costs if, instead of spending the money for unemployment be spent to extend compulsory education or to "buy" jobs from mothers by means of the "baby bonus", or by luring workers into retirement at the age of 60. Even so, the last point should be examined more thoroughly.

Latest statistics show that the number of long-term unemployed is rising. Would it therefore not be more tolerable to send the older people to pasture, thus providing jobs for the young?

This proposal should be discussed on a non-partisan basis and be subjected to a thorough feasibility study.

Kurt Gehrmann

(Neue Ruhr Zeitung, 6 June 1977)

CDU proposals to cut number of jobless

Although there was a drop in unemployment in May, there is no reason to be jubilant since May has always been marked by a high rate of employment.

It is, however, gratifying that the number of young jobless diminished, although there is little likelihood that general unemployment will improve markedly in the course of this year.

The economic upswing is showing signs of slowing down. But, with all due scepticism, we must not overlook the fact that we still have a growth which can only be termed quite satisfactory by previous yardsticks. And no-one fears that the present upswing could suffer a severe setback.

But such a satisfactory outlook concerning the economy does not wipe out unemployment.

This malaise is now to be countered by several proposals put forward by the CDU and the state of Lower Saxony.

Apart from other measures, the CDU would like to reduce the flexible retirement age for men to 60 — although only temporarily.

It is possible that such a measure would provide a number of young unemployed with jobs. But the price could well be higher than the proponents bargained for.

The lower retirement age could very easily be institutionalised and become permanent. And once the new retirement age could no longer be justified as a labour policy measure it could very well be presented as a social achievement.

This would mean that the Pension Funds would find it even harder to wriggle their way out of the red.

Labour market policies should therefore not play around with the social security system which is overtaxed anyway. The same applies to the proposed "child rearing money" for mothers with small chidren.

Quite apart from the fact that the effect of such measures on unemployment is doubtful, it must not be overlooked that the weakness of the labour market cannot be eliminated by statistically reducing the number of unemployed.

Many businesses find it impossible to get the staff they need, while workers looking for jobs are turned down because they are unsuited for the position offered.

Bearing all this in mind, the CDU proposals concerning tax relief that would stimulate investment seem more realistic.

Concerning the CDU's proposal of an additional government investment programme to the tune of DM3,000 million per annum, the main question is whether such funds would be invested gainfully.

Such measures are no guarantee that the money spent will be a lasting contribution towards growth rather than a flash in the pan.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 4 June 1977)

Pensions tax no longer a taboo topic

The explosive question: "Will pensioners one day have to pay taxes?" was raised for the first time during Bundesrat deliberations at the beginning of June about legislation to revamp our Pension and Health Insurance Funds.

The so-called profit-yielding part of pensions is already taxable. But this part is in most instances so low that no taxes are imposed for income resulting from pensions alone. Any actual pension taxation has to date been considered taboo.

But Hans Koschnick, Mayor of Bremen and deputy federal chairman of the SPD, overcame this taboo at the Bundesrat session, calling on the parties to openly discuss a possible taxing of pensions and a contribution by pensioners to the Health Insurance Fund.

According to him, this is not an imminent problem for 1977, but to all intents and purposes he conceded that the present pension reform legislation could only temporarily fill a few gaps in the financing of pensions and that more stringent measures are unavoidable.

This frankness on the part of the deputy SPD chairman must be welcomed. But then, his party has a great deal to make up for where clarity and truthfulness vis-a-vis the public in the pensions issue is concerned.

Where the deputy CDU chairman, Schleswig-Holstein Prime Minister Stoltenberg, is concerned, Herr Koschnick's ... never made any bones about the fact that pensions increases based on the prevailing gross wages would only be possible if pensioners were — to a limited extent — to pay taxes and health insurance contributions.

Although it is premature to draw the conclusion from this basic consensus between the deputy chairman of CDU and SPD that there is a majority in the offing for taxes on pensions, it is nevertheless evident that the ideas of these two major parties are roughly on the same wavelength.

There can be no doubt that this is due to the underlying realisation that the present contributions by the working population have reached the limits of tolerance.

As sad as it might be that pensioners will one day have to pay taxes on a part of their income, it is nevertheless necessary to draw attention to such a possibility, which could well become inevitable.

But we must not lose sight of the fact that the pensioners' standard of living must not be excessively curtailed by such taxation.

According to Herr Koschnick, major reforms of the Pension Fund system, which would entail taxation of pensions, would have to be implemented by 1984 at the very latest.

This is due to the fact that as of that year the Federal Constitutional Court's ruling whereby widows' pensions must equal those of men will come into force.

This would require a complete restructuring of the pensions system on a narrower basis because the number of contribution payers in relation to pensioners will diminish.

It would be right and meaningful if politicians were to start pondering the problems of the future now.

Werner Neumann

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 5 June 1977)

■ TRADE

Bonn hearing on Third World commodity problems remains inconclusive

The two-day public hearings at the end of May on development problems involving the relevant Bundestag Committee, researchers, labour and management, the Churches and business associations, with special emphasis on the commodity policy demands of the Third World, are likely to have confused rather than enlightened our MPs.

Those MPs who might have hoped to be enlightened on the question whether Third World demands raised at Unctad IV and involving an Integrated Raw Materials Programme for 17 commodities, with the necessary Common Fund, would be beneficial to the developing nations or whether they would jeopardise our liberal world trade system, were clearly disappointed.

There were virtually no reliable statistical or analytical data that could have served as a basis of discussion. And wherever such data were presented the other side doubted their reliability.

Thus for instance most opponents of Third World and Unctad demands — above all representatives of industry importing raw materials, business associations and those engaged in foreign trade — accepted the analysis put forward by the Bonn Ministry of Economic Affairs (an analysis which Chancellor Helmut Schmidt used to convince his partners at the Puerto Rico Economic Summit) without much criticism.

According to this analysis, the prime [illegible] veloping nations, but industrialised countries rich in raw materials — among them the Soviet Union.

The HWWA Institute for Economic Research in Hamburg must be credited with having pointed out that the picture changes entirely when trade surpluses and deficits in a raw materials exporting country are related to other economic aspects such as the GNP.

In doing so, it becomes obvious that most developing nations would considerably benefit from a stabilisation or increase of commodity prices.

HWWA also pointed out that government development aid is insignificant compared with the importance of yields from raw materials sales by the Third World, 80 per cent of whose population is employed in the raw materials sector.

Moreover, HWWA pointed out that the alternative presented by the industrialised nations, namely a balance-of-payments-oriented export yield stabilisation, would become the more expensive the less the parties involved succeed in smoothing out extreme price fluctuations on the commodities markets by means of agreements.

But the confusion went even further. There are for instance no reliable estimates concerning the cost of the envisaged integrated programme and the Federal Republic of Germany's share in it.

This will largely depend on the models chosen. Similar uncertainties exist concerning staff requirements.

Opponents of an integrated prgramme fear that this would require an enormous bureaucracy similar to the EEC Commission in Brussels which now administers our agricultural market.

A UN representative, on the other hand, maintains that experience with commodity agreements already in existence proves that they can be administered by a few experts.

The practicability of raw materials agreements and experience with existing agreements are interpreted in different ways.

Opponents point to the fact that tin, cocoa, coffee and wheat agreements never functioned when it was most important that they do so, which bears out their worthlessness.

Proponents, on the other hand, feel that this should only induce us to devise better agreements in future.

There was a certain consensus among the participants in the hearing that raw materials agreements — should they be really indispensible — must at least include the most important importers and exporters and that they must be devised in such a way as to smooth out price fluctuations rather than create long-term market trends, because they would otherwise be doomed to failure.

There was no consensus on the question whether stabilised or increased commodity prices would facilitate the urgently needed diversification in the production of developing nations or whether they would hamper it.

The parties most concerned in this issue, namely the developing nations themselves, were not represented at the Bonn hearing.

But they had a few supporters in the representatives of the Churches, Unctad and among researchers, although they find it much easier to advocate centrally-controlled world market solutions than does business with its vested interest in market mechanisms.

At best, the Bonn hearing brought about an increased awareness of the problems of the developing nations.

It might also have led to the realisation — a realisation which exists in the Federal Government anyway — that compromise solutions in the North-South Dialogue are an absolute necessity.

This was evidenced at the London Summit which approved of individual raw materials linked with a Fund that would serve as a clearing house.

And, as a supplementary measure, the stabilisation of the Third World's export yields. This is already a political *fait accompli* in the Western world and can't be changed by the Bonn hearing.

Eberhard Wisdorff

(Handelsblatt, 27 May 1977)

Protectionism spreads despite lip service to free trade

The Trade Policy Committee of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) laid the foundation for another year of truce in trade during its end of May meeting [illegible] OECD Council of Ministers session on 23 and 24 June.

With their renewed avowal of free trade the industrialised nations reiterated the decisions of the London Summit which decided to "reject protectionism."

But are our heads of government not behaving like a child who whistles in the dark because he is afraid?

Hardly a week passes without new measures being implemented which are inconsistent with free world trade, among them import deposits, agreements on the self-curtailment of exports, minimum price arrangements, etc.

According to trade experts of the EEC Commission in Brussels, the changes that have occurred latterly are evidenced by a flood of complaints from individual branches of business maintaining that their existence is in jeopardy as a result of imports.

Although intent on imparting new impulses to world-wide trade within GATT, the heads of government are well aware of these developments.

This is borne out by several passages of the London declaration, and US Secretary of the Treasury W. Michael Blumenthal recently said at an interview that the London concept was aimed at preventing *major* unilateral measures.

In other words, small infringements are no longer pilloried. According to the pessimists among our trade policy makers, such a development must inevitably lead to protectionism.

Free world trade is gradually being eroded since more and more countries react by protectionist measures in one form or another.

Others see in such scattered infringements in individual sectors the price we have to pay for keeping the basic structure of international trade intact. The main dam has held against the onslaught, but outer dams have cracked in places.

Infringements of the past few years are due to the fact that the effects of the oil shock have not yet been overcome, and above all there is no end to unemployment in sight.

As a result, even in the European Community a motion for measures to restrict imports would stand an excellent chance of being passed if the reason given for such a motion were to be the securing of jobs.

Agreements in which nations would undertake to cut down on their own exports, as propagated by the Japanese a few years ago, have so far been rejected by the EEC.

Now, however, such agreements are viewed in a different light, notwithstanding many speeches maintaining that the Third World could best be helped by open markets for its products.

But when it comes to the crunch — as now with the extension of the World Textile Agreement — the EEC is very restrictive in its attitude.

There is no halting the changes in world trade resulting from shifts in the rates of exchange, the growing industrialisation of some developing nations, the increasing strength of Japan and the advance of US companies.

But more and more voices in Europe, prompted by the high unemployment rate, demand a slowing down in this process. Some branches of industry, such as textiles and clothing, steel, shipbuilding, and roller bearing manufacture must be protected — if only temporarily — in order to prevent social hardships.

But there is the danger that such protective measures might not only become permanent; they could also be expanded. This is clearly demonstrated by Europe's agricultural market.

Those obstructing the import of textiles must not be surprised if the export of textile machines finds itself in the doldrums. The painful process of adaptation must be weathered, and procrastinating does not make it any easier.

Jobs can only be secured if Europe's economy is in the vanguard.

Hans-J. Mahnk

(Die Welt, 28 May 197

5 per cent growth rate feasible, says Bundesbank

The upswing in the Federal Republic of Germany probably has gathered momentum in the past few weeks, according to the new President of the Bundesbank, Otmar Emminger.

After the recent session of the Central Bank Council in Trier, at which, as expected, no credit policy decisions were reached, Herr Emminger said that overall economic growth in real terms during the first quarter (converted to annual rate) amounted to about 4 per cent, compared with 6 per cent in the last quarter of 1976.

Herr Emminger, who took over the helm of the Bundesbank together with Vice-President Karl Otto Pöhl on 1 June, considers an overall growth for 1977 of between 4.5 and 5 per cent still feasible. He pointed out that the release of DM 4,800 million in additional liquid funds for banks as of 1 June (decided at the 18 May session) was intended to help realise this goal.

During the latest session which, as every year, took place outside Frankfurt — which is the seat of the Bundesbank — Otmar Emminger expressed himself satisfied with the consultative visit of IMF representatives to Bonn and Frankfurt recently. They expressly welcomed the Bundesbank policy of supplying money in accordance with its money supply target of plus 8 per cent for 1977.

According to Bundesbank board member Helmut Schlesinger, the initially anticipated unemployment figure of 850,000 — a government estimate — can no longer be achieved although unemployment is likely to be below the one million mark as an annual average.

dpa

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 3 June 1977)

■ TRADE

Exports to oil-producing countries pick up

Forecasts concerning the Federal Republic of Germany's exports have become more cautious. At the beginning of the year experts were still anticipating a real growth of about 10 per cent or more. But present estimates have dropped to between 7 and 8 per cent.

This correction not only reflects the slower growth in the important industrialised nations, but also continued uncertainty — especially with regard to countries with balance of payments, inflation and unemployment problems.

Even so, a real growth in exports of 7 per cent — compared with developments in the past — would still be considerable and would pretty well match the anticipated increase in the world trade volume. But such a growth would be disproportionately large compared with overall economic growth in the Federal Republic of Germany.

Export would thus remain the economy's "locomotive" and impulses from abroad would once more play a major role in stepped up production and an improved situation on the labour market. This seems to be borne out by recent orders from our trading partners.

Following a phase of restraint, orders from abroad have picked up again in the past few months (statistical data are available until March). March orders in particular give rise to optimism.

After a somewhat slow increase in February, foreign buyers ordered 16 per cent more goods in March than in the previous month (adjusted seasonally and for price fluctuation).

Particularly remarkable is the growth of orders in the capital goods industry in March. This industry is the focal point of German exports.

There orders increased by a whacking 14 per cent, which will primarily benefit our mechanical and electrical engineering industries as well as the metal processing industry.

While in the basic material and the production equipment industries orders kept rising relatively steadily since last November, picking up very considerably latterly, the consumer goods industries have shown a decline in incoming orders since December 1976 — although it must be taken into account that the influx of orders was very heavy at that time. It must be borne in mind that the March figures will probably have to be amended due to changes in the statistical system and the new way of categorising industries. But even if the revised data were to be somewhat less favourable, the general trend presages continued if relatively modest growth.

The fairly strong upswing in the United States will have its effect on world trade in the months to come and thus on demand for German goods.

Somewhat more restrained will be the demand from Japan and from most West European countries — especially those which have balance of payments and inflation problems, such as Britain, Italy, France and Denmark.

Demand from the East bloc and the non oil-producing developing nations is also likely to be moderate. On the other hand, there is every reason to expect that demand from the oil-producing countries, whose export revenues increased considerably last year, will pick up. Since the economic upswing at home has evidently become more stable there is every likelihood that imports will continue to rise. The 8.5 per cent increase in imports (in real terms) as assumed by our economic research institutes is absolutely feasible.

Foreign trade showed considerable growth in the first four months of this year. While imports (in real terms) rose by close to 7 per cent over the same period in the previous year, the volume of exports increased by 5 per cent in the same period.

As shown in the export tables for the first quarter, there has been hardly any change in position compared with the previous year so far as the top-ranking countries are concerned.

Holland and Great Britain consolidated their positions, and the same applies to Austria, Switzerland, Sweden and [illegible] tries has been above average.

On the other hand, the Soviet Union, Poland and Denmark bought fewer goods from Germany than in the first three months of 1976. Among the newcomers to the top twenty customers are Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Australia and Japan.

It is remarkable that three oil-producing countries — Iran having been joined by Algeria and Saudi Arabia — now belong to our 20 most important customers. This clearly indicates that the recycling of oil money is functioning well.

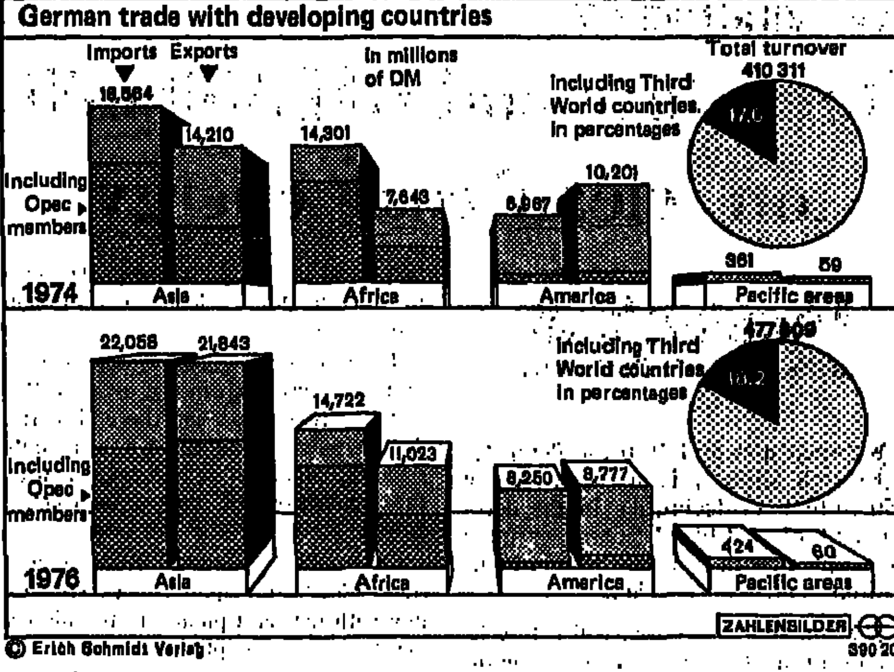
After all, in the first quarter of this year oil imports have been virtually completely offset by exports to the Opec countries. In 1974 only half of the import cost was offset by exports.

In the import sector (see table) the share of Holland, in other words, our most important supplier, dropped from one-seventh to one-eighth. Imports from Saudi Arabia and the Soviet Union also dropped during the period under review. On the other hand, Britain, Libya, Japan, Austria, Spain and Norway gained in weight.

A newcomer to the circle of the 20 major suppliers is Brazil, while Nigeria dropped out. It is also noteworthy that the share of non oil-producing developing nations has increased. This is clearly reflected in the above average increase of our imports of raw materials and semi-finished products.

Lothar Julitz

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 3 June 1977)



© Erich Schmidt Verlag

The 20 most important buyers — Exports FOB				
Export values of 1977 1)	1st quarter '76 in mill. DM	in p.c.	1st quarter '77 in mill. DM	in p.c.
1. France (1)	8,136	13.4	8,823	13.2
2. Holland (2)	5,950	9.8	6,799	10.2
3. Belgium/Lux (3)	4,984	8.2	5,462	8.2
4. Italy (4)	4,787	7.9	4,984	7.5
5. USA (5)	3,434	5.7	3,744	5.6
6. Britain (6)	2,960	4.9	3,522	5.3
7. Austria (7)	2,774	4.6	3,297	5.0
8. Switzerland (8)	2,581	4.3	3,063	4.6
9. Sweden (9)	2,038	3.4	2,418	3.6
10. USSR (10)	1,834	3.0	1,564	2.3
11. Denmark (11)	1,650	2.7	1,501	2.3
12. Iran (12)	1,247	2.1	1,457	2.2
13. Spain (13)	1,054	1.7	1,142	1.7
14. Yugoslavia (15)	882	1.5	1,058	1.6
15. Norway (14)	891	1.5	1,041	1.6
16. Poland (17)	826	1.3	768	1.2
17. Algeria (—)	459	0.8	750	1.1
18. Saudi Arabia (—)	477	0.8	714	1.1
19. Australia (—)	394	0.7	708	1.1
20. Japan (—)	526	0.9	678	1.0
20 largest customers	47,884	79.2	53,493	80.3

1) Position in previous year

The 20 most important suppliers — Imports CIF				
Import values of 1977	1st quarter '76 in mill. DM	in p.c.	1st quarter '77 in mill. DM	in p.c.
1. Holland (1)	7,592	14.6	7,643	13.2
2. France (2)	6,143	11.8	6,916	12.0
3. Belgium/Lux (3)	4,539	8.7	4,905	8.5
4. Italy (4)	4,281	8.2	4,824	8.4
5. USA (5)	4,440	8.5	4,305	7.5
6. Britain (6)	1,978	3.8	2,306	4.0
7. Switzerland (7)	1,610	3.1	1,767	3.1
8. Libya (8)	1,219	2.3	1,495	2.6
9. Japan (9)	1,106	2.1	1,442	2.5
10. Austria (11)	1,156	2.2	1,386	2.4
11. Sweden (12)	1,049	2.0	1,216	2.1
12. Iran (10)	1,096	2.1	1,189	2.1
13. Saudi Arabia (14)	1,000	1.9	1,046	1.8
14. USSR (13)	1,021	2.0	894	1.5
15. Denmark (15)	735	1.5	826	1.4
16. Algeria (16)	679	1.3	787	1.4
17 Spain (18)	633	1.2	740	1.3
18. Norway (20)	552	1.1	686	1.2
19. Hongkong (19)	614	1.2	650	1.1
20. Brazil (—)	434	0.8	626	1.1
20 largest suppliers	41,877	80.8	45,647	79.1

Source: Federal Statistical Office

German-Soviet trade quadruples in 5 years

Both sides demonstrated satisfaction at the seventh conference of the German-Soviet Commission for Economic, Technical and Scientific Cooperation in Bonn. [illegible]

Minister of Economic Affairs Hans Friderichs said that "in 1971 no-one would have considered a quadrupling of turnover in the next five years possible."

According to the First Deputy Prime Minister of the Soviet Union, Nikolai A. Tichonov, the consolidation phase in trade should be used for the further development of cooperation. He pointed out that there are good prospects for joint projects in mechanical engineering and the chemical industry.

Tichonov stressed that the Soviet Union will promote mechanical engineering heavily in the next few years. This should provide new opportunities for both exports and imports. Cooperation in the research sector is to be stepped up, and the first jointly developed lathe is to be presented at the next Hanover Fair.

Hans-Jürgen Mahnke

(Die Welt, 3 June 1977)

Productivity beats labour cost

Considering the de facto revaluation of the deutschmark and rising production costs due to constant wage increases, the Federal Republic of Germany's industry should have gone broke long ago.

Instead, Germany's industry has been producing growing trade surpluses for the past fifteen years. Apart from a few exceptions — primarely relatively simple products — our industry has lost nothing of its competitiveness on world markets.

What is the explanation for this? According to the chief executive of a major American company in West Germany, this is due to productivity per working hour. He points out that people in this country work harder and produce more than elsewhere. In fact, the very pressure of production costs to which we have been exposed for years has brought this about.

This high degree of productivity has rendered the increase in wage costs relatively tolerable.

This is not gibberish nor is it fishing for compliments, but simple fact borne out by major American companies such as General Motors or International Harvester having invested considerable amounts in German subsidiaries, primarily for the purpose of exporting from this country.

This is in no way at odds with the fact that German companies did right in deciding to invest abroad. No world-wide business can today be conducted from one country alone.

This has nothing to do with the generalisation whereby German industry is emigrating abroad. On the contrary, the fact that Americans are investing in Germany and Germans in America only proves that the world economy is still intact.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 6 June 1977)

■ ENVIRONMENT

Bonn to spend DM 350 mill. on 'clean' coal energy



Between now and 1980 the Bonn Research Ministry is to invest roughly 350 million deutschmarks in the development of coal-based technology more in keeping with modern standards in environmental conservation.

The measures envisaged will reduce to a minimum the emission of sulphuric and nitric oxide and dust by coal-fired power stations and promote research into new techniques of converting fuel into power.

Announcing details of the research programme, Research Minister Hans Matthöfer noted that coal-fired power stations are not being built at a rate commensurate with government energy policy targets.

Even where old and uneconomic power stations badly need replacing by modern installations that are far less objectionable from the pollution viewpoint, the general public frequently object. More often than not, their part of the country has had a poor pollution record in the past.

Clean air measures are self-defeating in immediate economic terms. They increase the cost of converting coal into electricity and use up additional energy in the process.

Yet a number of coal-fired power stations urgently need building, both to boost coal sales and because of the delay in nuclear power station construction programmes.

These power stations are needed to bridge a power gap in the eighties. Research between now and the end of the decade must be aimed at solving outstanding problems in connection with the conversion of coal into electric power.

Government grants will enable power companies to run the risk of experimenting with new and promising techniques that have yet to be put into practice.

Incentives will be provided to encourage the development of anti-pollution techniques that will reduce pollution levels to below present requirements prior, no doubt, to making these new low levels mandatory.

A number of individual measures will make coal-fired power stations more satisfactory from the environmental viewpoint, thereby facilitating planning permission.

The research programme is bound to prove a shot in the arm for the Bonn government's declared intention of boosting coal-fired power station capacity by an additional 6,000 megawatts by the early eighties.

Funds have already been earmarked to finance the programme.

One of the objectives will be to im- [illegible] ting costs and reducing the amount of energy required to power what is already an indispensable feature of coal-fired power stations.

At present desulphurisation involves an additional power consumption of five per cent and adds between half and one and a half pfennigs to the cost per kilowatt hour.

New techniques also need developing to reduce nitric oxide emission levels. Since nitric oxide cannot economically be extracted from the smoke in the way that sulphuric oxide is, it must be nipped in the bud before it has a chance to develop.

Methods envisaged include avoiding peak temperatures and cutting back on surplus oxygen in the furnace.

Fine dust in the smoke that belches forth from the chimney stack is a particularly dangerous health hazard. Where electric filtration fails to extract it water jets may do the trick.

For this particular project a pilot installation will need incorporating in a new power station. In all the Ministry is investing 154 million deutschmarks in clean air research of this kind.

A further 54 million deutschmarks are to be spent on new cooling processes and on utilising process heat. The Agrotherm project will be extended to a 500-hectare (1,250-acre) site.

This project involves pipelining power station process heat through a network of pipes buried in the soil of nearby farmland, which has already resulted in substantial crop yield increases.

Last but not least, 107 million deutschmarks are to be invested in new conversion techniques with a view to increasing to over forty per cent percentage of heat generated that is converted into electric power.

All these techniques will extract sulphur in the process of combustion, thereby obviating the need for costly [illegible]

They include coal gasification at high pressure linked with combined gas and steam turbines and a number of new firing and conversion processes.

(Handelsblatt, 6 June 1977)

Pebbles to help keep nuclear reactors safe

An emergency cut-off system for pebblebed reactors developed at Jülich nuclear research centre has proved technically feasible, C. B. von der Decken and H. Barthels of Jülich told delegates to this year's reactor conference in Mannheim.

In order to contain the chain reaction in the event of a nuclear power station breakdown, such as a failure in the cooling system, all reactors have to incorporate an emergency cut-off system in addition to standard shut-down procedures.

In the past boron absorber rods have been used for this purpose, as indeed they are used to regulate the reactor while in routine operation. Additional boron rods, which absorb neutrons, are lowered into the reactor core and bring the chain reaction to a halt.

Instead of rods the new emergency system uses small pebbles of graphite containing boron which are poured into the reactor core on top of the pebbles of nuclear fuel.

The diameter of these boron pebbles is so small that they can easily fill the gaps between the pebblebed of pebbles six centimetres in diameter.

In other words, they must be small enough to pass through the smallest space between three fuel pebbles touching each other in a kind of triangle.

The diameter of this smallest space is 1 to 6.46 of the fuel pebble diameter, but as fuel pebbles are seldom packed together in maximum density, absorber pebbles can be slightly larger.

They then pass through the gaps without undue difficulty yet are retained in sufficient number to bring the chain reaction to a halt.

In point of fact, as trials with a 1 to 3.8 scale model of a reactor core have shown, a diameter ratio of between 1 to 6.3 and 1 to 6.4 achieves the desired results.

The absorber pebbles find their way through the larger gaps, but are retained at points where the pebblebed reaches maximum density. An average 7.6 per cent pass right through the bed.

So more than ninety per cent are retained, bringing the chain reaction to a standstill. Neither topping up nor drawing off absorber pebbles presents the slightest difficulty.

Once the reactor fault has been repaired normal operation can be resumed immediately. The pebblened moves about during operation, allowing absorber pebbles to sink gradually to the bed of the core, from which they can then be extracted.

Since, however, the normal distribution of fuel pebbles is disturbed, hitting performance, it is advisable to extract the absorber pebbles as fast as possible.

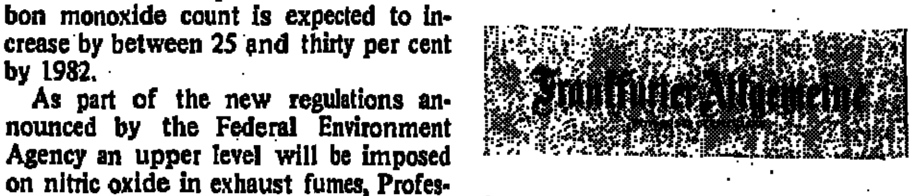
The easiest way to do this, trials have shown, is to lower the standard absorber rods. In this way only ten per cent or so of the core volume needs to be rotated to release about eighty per cent of the absorber pebbles.

Unlike other reactors, the pebblebed reactor can continue operations for at least two hours without damage to the core even when the coolant system (in this case helium) is completely out of action.

This leaves ample time to take precautionary measures on which the emergency cut-off system is an elegant variation.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 1 June 1977)

New rules to cut car fumes pollution



Despite new clean exhaust regulations envisaged by Bonn Interior Minister Werner Maihofer as being enforced by 1982 atmospheric pollution caused by vehicle exhaust fumes will at best be reduced to 1970 levels.

In the wake of an increasing volume of traffic in metropolitan areas the carbon monoxide count is expected to increase by between 25 and thirty per cent by 1982.

As part of the new regulations announced by the Federal Environment Agency an upper level will be imposed on nitric oxide in exhaust fumes, Professor Maihofer stated.

This regulation will apply in the Federal Republic from 1 October this year and forms part of the clean exhaust measures agreed at Common Market talks.

The stricter tolerances scheduled for enforcement in 1982 will not, as yet, apply to the European Community as a whole.

Current permissible carbon monoxide levels are to be reduced by between 62 and 74 per cent. The hydrocarbon and nitric oxide counts are to be cut by between 62 and 76 per cent.

At present some 24 million motor vehicles are registered in this country. They burn up 40,000 million litres of fuel a year and emit 420,000 million cubic metres of exhaust fumes per annum.

According to the Federal Environment Agency vehicular traffic accounts for approximately half the carbon monoxide count, 25 per cent of the nitric oxide fumes and nineteen per cent of unburnt hydrocarbons.

These toxic fumes are emitted mainly in city centres and residential areas and, moreover, at head height. In city streets traffic can account for up to 99 per cent of the carbon monoxide, 89 per cent of the hydrocarbons and 93 per cent of the nitric oxide in the air we breathe.

The agency concludes that in city centres traffic is the main pollution offender, not industry or domestic heating.

Levels deemed harmful in the United States are seldom undercut in the daytime in city centres in this country, while levels rated very harmful occur about one day in ten.

The new clean exhaust regulations will not lead to higher fuel consumption. In some cases consumption will be reduced by as much as eight per cent, the agency claims.

The extra cost of manufacturing new vehicles to comply with the new regulations will vary according to the method preferred but should work out at about 350 DM per vehicle.

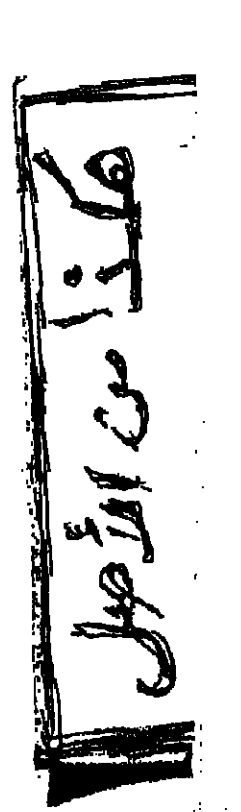
In this context the Interior Ministry notes that in a recent opinion poll conducted by Infas of Bad Godesberg 62 per cent of the members of the general public questioned reckoned they would be prepared to pay 500 deutschmarks more for a car that emits virtually no toxic exhaust fumes and runs as quietly as possible.

Thirty-two per cent were not prepared to pay more for environmental conservation and the remaining six per cent were don't knows.

The new recommended levels deliberately favour the smaller car. Slightly less swingeing cuts are imposed on prescribed exhaust counts for compact models. At the same time, however, the new regulations will not inhibit the current choice between a wide range of engines.

Motor manufacturers have conceded the accuracy of much of what the Federal Environment Agency has to say. On Environment Day, 5 June, they exhibited prototypes of clean-exhaust cars outside the Ministry of the Interior in Bonn.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 6 June 1977)



■ THE ARTS

Ballet seems to have run out of ideas



Leading ballet companies around the country have recently staged a succession of premieres: first Stuttgart, then Munich, then Wuppertal.

By the time Hamburg follows suit there will have been a full month's ballet in Vienna and five companies taking to the stage in the Dutch Festival.

Cologne too has promptly changed its mind about cancelling its fifth summer season of modern ballet for financial reasons.

What, then, does ballet have to offer in the late seventies? To judge by the latest premieres the only common denominator is that the principals are choreographically at sea.

The grandes dames of ballet in this country, Marcia Haydée of Stuttgart and Pina Bausch of Wuppertal, were nonethless true to themselves in their latest work, albeit poles apart.

Marcia Haydée gave priority to the dance, whereas Pina Bausch staged a production that does not fit into any of the conventional theatre genres.

In Stuttgart Marcia Haydée dispensed with the usual retrospective and decided to stage only one ballet, *Sleeping Beauty*, a classic that demands brilliancy of excution and is loaded with pitfalls.

Rosella Hightower, the one-time prima ballerina who now heads the *Centre de Dance Classique* in Cannes, was the *Württembergisches Staatstheater's* choice as director.

She based her Sleeping Beauty on Bronislava Nijinska's 1960 version, which in its turn was based on Petipas' original 1890 St Petersburg choreography.

The outcome was probably inevitable. Rosella Hightower rightly enjoys a high reputation as a teacher, but on stage in Stuttgart her Sleeping Beauty testifies to a lack of intuition, imagination and at times even musicality.

Basic principles of the stage were disregarded, with the result that Sleeping Beauty all but ended up as a virtual succession of *divertissements*. To crown it all, set designer Desmond Heeley opted for the sombre pomp of Tsarist Russia.

But Marcia Haydée staged the production with three separate casts, and not only the leading roles changed hands. At one stage or another, or so it seemed, everyone danced everyone else's roles.

The dancers who played the minor roles included several major talents in the making. Each had a style of his or her own and all seemed in peak form.

The Stuttgart company obviously does not only insist on a thorough grounding in classical and academic technique; importance is also attached to how the part is handled with regard to the individual dancer's personal style.

In this context special mention must be made of Eileen Brady. Despite faultless technique, she conveyed the impression of being natural, unspoilt and still capable of astonishment.

Eileen Brady has the makings of a great ballerina. Marcia Haydée may be troubled by a shortage of first-rate choreographers, but she obviously has no shortage of talented dancers.

In Wuppertal Pina Bausch likewise failed to come up with anything strikingly new and noteworthy in choreography. Oddly enough, one might add, since she alone among this country's native choreographers is renowned for an up-to-date style of her own.

Yet Pina Bausch seems to be mistrustful of the possibilities of choreographic theatre. Her latest production carries on a trend that began with *Fritz* in 1974 and *Bluebeard* earlier this season.

Come Dance With Me is described in the programme as a play by Pina Bausch using folksongs, with the emphasis on "play" and not a mention of choreography, let alone ballet.

True enough, there is very little dancing in *Come Dance With Me*, but Pina Bausch turns out to be a first-rate librettist, and she needs neither literary subject matter nor a score.

Marcia Haydée as Aurora in *Sleeping Beauty*. (Photo: Hannes Kilian)



Jo-Anne Endicott and Gisbert Rüschkamp in Pina Bausch's *"Komm tanz mit mir"*. (Photo: Ulli Weiss)

Her plot testifies to her skill as an observer of human nature, of people's secret wishes, passionate desires and unfulfilled lives. Yet her level-headed honest view of the world nonetheless bears witness to a veiled love of life.

More than ever before, scenes that culminate in what can almost be termed sadistic outbreaks are tempered by tender, lyrical passages that testify to hope against hope.

She takes to task the simplicity and sentimentality of German folksong as indicated by her choreography.

Actor Gisbert Rüschkamp plays an Everyman in white flannel and sunglasses who objects to the simple, sentimental view of life embodied in the traditional folksong canon.

He calls for a counterpoint, an opposite number. He calls for confidence yet himself is evidently lacking in confidence. He calls for pleasure and happiness yet everything he does tends to listlessness and unhappiness. The dialogue he attempts to conduct with the female lead is banal in the extreme.

Pina Bausch's productions are vaguely reminiscent of Maurice Béjart's *spectacle total*, which brings us to Dieter Gackstetter's *Rilke* in Munich.

Gackstetter spent several years as a dancer with Béjart's Twentieth-Century Ballet and chose existentialist philosophy as the subject of his PhD thesis.

This predilection may well have been why he has chosen to stage a ballet about the poet Rainer Maria Rilke, whose *Notes by Malte Laurids Brigge* presaged many of the questions asked by existentialist philosophy.

Rilke is the work of a lone wolf among choreographers and it provides intellectual satisfaction. Gackstetter shuns biographical portrayal and allows his poet to encounter his images and characters in their own world.

But Rilke's complex symbolism is no longer as valid as it was earlier this century, and a great deal of *creative imagination* is required to evolve new symbols from the human body and its everyday life.

Dieter Gackstetter has bitten off more than he can chew, and neither Thierry Bosquet's sets nor Walter Haupt's effective ballet score can disguise the fact.

On balance, then, Dieter Gackstetter too has failed in his Munich *Rilke* to create a convincing modern ballet.

Helmut Schleier

(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, 5 June 1977)

Portraying the brutal senselessness of war

Hans Werner Henze's opera *Wir erreichen den Fluss* is based on a play by British playwright Edward Bond and was first produced in London as *We Come to the River*.

There were a few catcalls at the Stuttgart premiere, where first-nighters were upset by the violent and warlike nature of the subject matter, but on balance the production was a success.

Credit is due not only to the composer, but also to the Württemberg State Opera company for mustering all its resources, including a number of star guests, in honour of one of the major works of modern musical theatre.

As in London, the composer directed the production himself, and he did so much more satisfactorily than Volker Schlöndorff, who directed the first production in this country at last autumn's Berlin Festival.

Henze is no tyro as a director, which is just as well since Bond's plot runs simulteneously on three planes, but oddly enough Henze and Bond's virtuosity in unravelling this intricacy, and ability that makes them undisputed masters of the musical scene, is not always to the advantage of the message the libretto tries to put across.

The tale is that of a general who is slowly going blind, but progressively coming to realise the madness of war. This insight testifies to the hope of the composer and librettist that this realisation on the part of an individual will be of deeper significance.

But the authorities consign him to a madhouse when he is suddenly found to be motivated by common sense and humanity.

In portraying the brutal senselessness of war and the activity of the lunatics, who are engaged in building an imaginary boat in which they plan to row to freedom, Hans Werner Henze as a director succeeds in creating memorable impressions.

As a composer he testifies to singular skill in handling the three orchestras, one for each of the storylines on stage, but his best and most impressive sections of the score are devoted to the weak, the people at the receiving end of organised violence.

Henze's music is at its warmest and most telling in, say, a cello solo denoting sympathy with the madmen or a madrigal chorus reminiscent of Gesualdo or Monteverdi in which the madmen who have reached the river that separates today from tomorrow and a better world give voice to their utopia.

This keynote is underscored by American conductor Dennis Russell Davies, whom Henze hired for an earlier Stuttgart production of his *Boulevard Solitude*. Davies is outstandingly successful in the clarity with which he conducts the three orchestras distributed across the stage.

Wolfgang Schöne as the general is a first-rate baritone with considerable powers of expression, but the production owes no less to Axel Manthey's Spartan but effective sets.

Heinz W. Koch

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 1 June 1977)

■ BOOKS

Computer to edit the complete works of Ludwig Wittgenstein

Ludwig Wittgenstein
(Photo: Suhrkamp Verlag)

Ludwig Wittgenstein's *Tractatus logico-philosophicus* was published in the last volume of Ostwald's "Annals of Natural Philosophy" in 1921. This is the only work published by Wittgenstein himself.

The thin volume is supplemented by some 30,000 pages of manuscript which make up Wittgenstein's legacy.

Following the philosopher's death in 1951, the administrators of his estate published a number of small volumes composed from these essays. In the course of these publications it became obvious that there was a great need for a complete edition of Wittgenstein's works.

The "problems of making the posthumous works of Ludwig Wittgenstein" available was the theme of a symposium at Tübingen University which was financed by the Fritz Thyssen Foundation.

Among the participants were the administrators of Wittgenstein's philosophical legacy, philosophers, linguists and data processing experts from Britain, Italy, Canada, Finland and the Federal Republic of Germany as well as representatives of the publishing houses Blackwell in Oxford and Suhrkamp in Frankfurt.

The difficulties in philosophically interpreting the works of Ludwig Wittgenstein are further aggravated by his particular mode of working.

His specific way of writing, the fragmentary nature of the manuscripts and the enormous volume of work as well as problems in dating the various manuscripts have necessitated an unprecedent procedure in publishing these works.

One objective of the symposium was to evolve concepts for the solution of these problems and the philosophical questions involved.

Another, to describe the structures of a new phase of Wittgenstein research and to form a group of researchers whose task it will be to concentrate on his works and, finally, to create a forum which prepare these works for publication.

The Research Group Wittgenstein, which has been working at the German Seminar of Tübingen University since 1974 and is financed by the Fritz Thyssen Foundation, will be transformed into a Wittgenstein Archives.

Frankfurter Allgemeine

During the next two or three years these archives will computerise the philosopher's entire work. This will include manuscripts in all their forms for the sake of absolute completeness.

At the same time, CNUCE, the state computer centre in Pisa, Italy, will develop mathematical programmes which are expected to help interpret the texts and assist in dating them.

The editing of texts by means of computer and special light operated type-setting machines which were developed at the computer centre of Tübingen University will make it possible to make editorial decisions subsequent to the scientific interpretation of the manuscripts.

The texts which can thus be read by machine and the new possibilities opened up by modern computers can provide the researchers with objective and "non-interpreting" access to the texts.

This process can also simplify the enormous work involved in preparing a historically critical edition of the works of Ludwig Wittgenstein, thus making the published product cheaper.

The first Wittgenstein Symposium, which will be followed by another in two years' time at the latest, led to the following major results: The formation and work of the Research Group Wittgenstein, complete documentation and cataloguing of the manuscripts and a description of the manner in which the volumes of the present Wittgenstein edition have come about.

This description is to be published as a supplementary volume to the Wittgenstein edition, together with essays on the philosopher's early works by B.F. McGuiness; on his works dating from *Tractatus* to *Big Typescript*, the "basis of philosophical grammar" by A. Kenny and on the philosopher's later works, including *Philosophical Investigation*, by H. G. von Wright.

The publication of four papers read at the symposium is to usher in the presentation of new ideas on Ludwig Wittgenstein's philosophy.

These papers were presented by Rush Rhees, B. F. McGuinnesa and Anthony Kenny. The publishers of these and all future works will remain Basil Blackwell, Oxford, and Suhrkamp of Frankfurt.

The Wittgenstein Symposium in Tübingen has ushered in a Wittgenstein discussion which is expected to provide a better understanding of the ideas of this great philosopher.

The new edition of his works, consisting of about 14 volumes of 500 pages each, is expected to be completed by the mid-eighties.

Wittgenstein once said that the only answer to certain philosophical problems is silence.

Perhaps the new edition of Ludwig Wittgenstein's work will enable us to allocate to him his rightful place in philosophy.

Michael Nedo

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 27 May 1977)

New names, old conflicts

Continued from page 3

Strauss allowed to run the country for a few years, freedom and the rule of law would go by the board, Herr Brandt claimed.

He and Hans Koschnick, mayor of Bremen and deputy leader of the SPD, also sought to make the Social Democrats out to be in the process of consolidation.

Herr Brandt levelled criticism not only at left-wingers, but also at the right-wing Fritz Erler group.

If you are entrusted with responsibility, he told left-wingers, you will not call party membership into question, nor will you envisage Popular Front deals with the Communists or jeopardise the struggle to canvass the support of voters who have hitherto backed other political parties.

As for the self-styled Fritz Erler group, who feel that the term socialism has been tarnished by GDR and East bloc practice and would prefer to refer exclusively to social democracy, Willy Brandt had this to say.

Anyone who is opposed to democratic socialism is opposed to the Godesberg Programme — the Social Democratic manifesto.

In the context of current disputes Hans Koschnick feels there is no hope whatever of an effective political party being established to the left of the SPD, but he went on to mention that there appear to be Social Democrats who are not sure where the borderline between the SPD and the CDU lies.

They would have no option but to quit the party, he said, just as would Social Democrats who seemed unable to perceive a distinction between the SPD and the Communists.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 6 June 1977)

How cultural treasures can be preserved in war

A brochure entitled "Cultural Treasures — Cataloguing, Making Available, Preserving" has just been published.

This booklet, which was commissioned by the Volkswagen Foundation deals with a subject which even those concerned with it are loath to delve into; namely the manner of preserving cultural treasures in case of war — a task which is difficult enough even in peacetime.

The Hague Convention of 14 May 1954 on "The Protection of Cultural Treasures in Case of Armed Conflict" says among other things: "Taking into account that the preservation of our cultural heritage is of major importance for all peoples of the world, the parties to this Treaty are determined to adopt all necessary measures for the protection of cultural treasures."

The signatories of the Treaty have even undertaken to teach their armed forces "respect for the cultural treasures of all peoples" even in peacetime.

But should war arise it can hardly be expected that generals will work out their strategies in a manner that would protect monuments or that fliers will drop their bombs at a safe distance from museums or churches. Measures for the protection of the cultural heritage must therefore be implemented in peacetime.

In keeping with the Hague Convention, the Bundestag passed a law on 11 April 1967, the implementation of which had met with considerable psychological and financial difficulties — among them the selection of cultural treasures most worthy of protection.

The VW Foundation brochure by Alheidis von Rohr must be considered a first step towards clarifying this question.

There brochure lists this country's institutions for the care of cultural treasures, their methods of work and the degree of training of their staff. The brochure also aims at stimulating a more thorough cataloguing of works of art in private ownership.

The Bonn Government intends to present a list of all cultural treasures worthy of protection by 1983.

Aachen is the first city in the Federal Republic of Germany to have taken a concrete step to protect cultural treasures in case of war by inaugurating an atom bomb bunker which is to serve as a storeroom for the museum in peacetime.

Margarete v. Schwarzkopf

(Die Welt, 27 May 1977)

Exhibition of German books in Moscow

Some ten thousand Soviet citizens visited an exhibition which the Association of the German Book Trade arranged in Moscow and at which 3,000 books were on display.

The visitors were particularly interested in illustrated art books. But they were also enchanted by the lively presentation of children's books. In the fiction department, their interested was aroused particularly by Frank Kafka, Siegfried Lenz and the German classics.

Professionals were very interested in the many dictionaries. The Soviet ushers and attendants had their hands full with young people who spent hours reading books on modern art while anxious throngs had to wait for admission.

The success of the exhibition, which was preceded by very little PR work, is borne out by the entries of Soviet visitors in the guest book.

Says one of them: "I'd like to find such beautiful books on the counter rather than under it." Another, a fourth-grade schoolgirl, wrote: "I like the children's department. It's full of interesting books with gay pictures. I wish we had such books in our country."

And a teacher had this to say: "I am deeply impressed by the variety and quality of the books on exhibit."

Soviet visitors were above all full of praise for the quality of the colour printing. The Soviet Minister of Education Demichev took two hours to peruse the books on exhibit.

Irene Falk, who was in charge of the Moscow exhibition, said that it was a pleasure to experience the great interest among the people.

In many instances the Soviet visitors took the trouble to copy whole chapters and to photograph covers.

The exhibition, which was a resounding success, will be shown again in Leningrad from 9 to 20 June.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 2 June 1977)

MEDICINE

Knee injuries difficult to treat successfully, say surgeons

Knee injuries tend to be clinically troublesome. Complete healing following a fracture is by no means to rule.

According to a collective study of the casualty surgery departments of the University Clinics of Freiburg, Homburg, Hanover, Mainz and Ulm, only two-thirds of the 210 patients who had suffered fractures of the knee were found in a follow-up checkup to be able to walk unimpeded and to have no pain.

The most frequent complications were knee-joint disorders (40 per cent), shortening of the leg (23 per cent) and impeded healing process. All patients had been operated on.

Professor H. Tscherne of the Casualty Surgery Clinic of the Hanover Medical School had these comments to make: "Local and generally associated injuries must be taken into account when evaluating failures since they frequently necessitate therapeutic compromises."

Nails, screws and plates as well as *spongiosa* — a spongy tissue inside the bone — are frequently used to reconstruct joints following fractures. Only if the shift in the joint has been moderate can the patient be spared an operation.

Kneecap fractures, mostly as a result of injuries sustained in sport, account for 0.4 to 1.5 per cent of knee injuries. If the fragments are not too far apart and if the stretch apparatus has not been affected, the only therapy necessary is placing the leg in a cast.

Complicated cases call for immediate surgery in the course of which it is wise to preserve the kneecap whenever possible. But partial removal of the kneecap can provide good results in cases where it proves impossible to join small fragments.

An examination of the reasons for the frequently moderate therapeutic success following fractures of the tibia head led to the conclusion that only the most experienced specialists should carry out the operation.

According to Professor J. Rehn, Bochum, the collective study clearly proves that success or failure of treatment depends not only on the surgery itself, but on the composition of the surgical team.

It the open space between the two parts of a fractured bone is not eliminated, the patient must expect to come down sooner of later with a painful arthrosis since the cartilage which forms in the open space as a bone substitute sustains damage by friction.

Treatment is extremely difficult because human cartilage virtually never heals. It is necessary to avoid long immobility in order to prevent any wasting away of cartilage and the damage that goes with it.

Tests at the Orthopaedic University Clinic in Heidelberg show that joint functions deteriorate proportionate to the duration of immobility. It is therefore necessary to begin with exercises and an active movement therapy at the earliest possible moment.

Cartilage damage can also be caused by undrained liquid accumulations and by ligament injuries which have been overlooked and which lead to disproportionate strain. The ligament system plays a major role where stability of the knee-joint is concerned.

According to Professor C. Burri, Ulm, ligament tears must be operated on as quickly as possible, in which case the results are satisfactory in 90 per cent of cases.

Diagnosis of pure cartilage damage is very difficult. As W. Glinz, Zurich, put it: "It is very difficult to find a black cat in a dark room at night, especially if you don't know whether there is a cat at all."

Ninety per cent of changes remain undetected. This makes pure cartilage injuries the most overlooked type of injury in traumatology Chinically, the initial symptom is severe pain which soon disappears again, not to reapear until a few weeks later.

X—rays are of little use in diagnosing such defects — even by means of double contrast arthrography. On the other hand, exploratory surgery requires a two-week hospital stay and the patient remains disabled so far as work is concerned for another four weeks.

Moreover, such surgery does not provide enough information about all cartilage surfaces.

Only arthroscopy can provide an accurate diagnosis. This type of knee-joint examination calls for an anaesthetic, but the patient does not have to be hospitalised.

The arthroscope enables the physician to examine and photograph the entire joint. It also enables the surgeon to remove small, broken-off pieces of cartilage.

They can be rinsed away through the shaft of the endoscope, while bigger fragments can be removed by instruments inserted through the apparatus, or they can be shifted to a suitable zone.

Complications following arthroscopy are rare provided the operation is carried out under sterile conditions. But arthroscopy, too, requires a great deal of experience. It is therefore recommended that arthroscopy be used only where cartilage damage is suspected and about one week after the accident or in cases of post-operative complications.

Endoscopic examination of joints was very slow to develop. First experiements were carried out by the Japanese Tagaki in 1920, and satisfactory instruments were not developed until 1931.

The procedure has met with considerable interest in Europe in the past few years, and arthroscopy has been perfected. But experiments with arthroscopic examinations of hip and shoulder joints have remained unsatisfactory so far.

Margot Behrends

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 1 June 1977)

Hypertension can damage the brain

A growing number of people in highly industrialised countries are subject to brain embolisms and brain haemorrhage. At present, one out of six people in the industrialised world die from the consequences of inadequacies in the blood supply to the brain.

Professor Klaus-Jochachim Zülch, Professor Konstantin-Alexander Hossmann and his brother, Dr Volker Hossmann of the Max Planck Institute for Brain Research in Cologne, see the main reason for the increase in blood vessel ailments in the fact that people in the industrialised world are exposed to a variety of stress situations.

These lead to a pathological increase in the arterial blood pressure, in other words hypertension, which is aggravated by inadequate exercise and overweight.

Hypertension is also a major risk factor in connection with inadequacies of the blood supply to the brain and hence brain embolism.

It accelerates the development of arteriosclerosis, a pathological change in and hardening of the blood vessels. Moreover, hypertension frequently has a direct effect on forming the blood clot that leads to embolism.

Since arteriosclerotic changes of the entire circulatory system — including brain circulation — develop at an early stage, among other things due to wrong diet, lack of exercise and other habits such as excessive smoking, preventive measures should be taken at an early stage.

These include regular exercise, reduction of overweight, stopping smoking, blood pressure checks and cholesterol tests as well as diabetes tests and treatment of heart disorders in good time.

Arteriosclerotically hardened and narrowed sections of the blood vessels can lead to a narrowing of the entire blood circulation system, leading to a drop in pressure — for instance in the blood supply system of the brain.

Once the narrowing of the blood vessels has progressed to such an extent that, should the performance of the heart be impeded or overall blood pressure sink, the local blood supply will also drop, damage to tissues and thus to the nervous system can ensue.

But it is also possible for blood clots to be deposited in the heart chamber system and in the major arteries in sections that have been arteriosclerotically narrowed. These clots can tear off the wall of the blood vessel and transport it to the brain where smaller vessels are blocked by embolism.

It is generally assumed that microembolisms in cases of temporary disturbances of the blood supply originate from such narrowed sections of blood vessels the walls of which are covered with so-called thrombus material from which blood clots are formed.

According to the team of the Max Planck Brain Research Institute there are many cases of temporary disturbances caused only by circulatory deficiencies. But these attacks must be taken as a warning that severe damage, as for instance heart embolism, could occur.

The narrowing of the blood vessels in such patients can frequently be treated surgically. The most common warning signs are short-lived paralyses.

According to the Max Planck Institute, preventive measures are indispensible since the chances of rehabilitation after brain embolism are much worse than after a heart embolism.

While in the case of heart embolism the proportion between necrotic (dead) tissue and the heart muscle as a whole is of major importance for a cure, what matters most in the case of a brain embolism is its localisation.

Embolisms of the brain can occur in so-called silent zones and thus remain unnoticed, causing no damage.

But if an embolism affects a part of the brain which controls speech or other intelligent functions, paralysis and loss of sensitivity as well as massive changes of intellectual performance occur.

Thus for instance embolisms in the main regions of the nervous system can cause severe paralysis, especially when they are localised at the junction of the major motoric nervous system.

Following a brain embolism, an oedema usually occurs two to seven days later, which can also impede functions and adversely affect cells.

If the oedema can be removed, these cells — provided they have not been too badly damaged — resume their function. This explains the partial improvement of neurological symptoms following a brain embolism.

But on the other hand the patient can also regain part of his functions by training during convalescence if other nerve cells take on the work of those that have been destroyed.

But this process requires a great deal of training and is frequently only partially successful.

Following a brain embolism it is the rule rather than the exception that more or less severe neurological handicaps remain. But modern treatment methods and modern technology at intensive care stations are fortunately in a position to prevent a great number of impending brain embolisms.

Horst Meermann

(Der Tagesspiegel, 28 May 1977)

200,000 died of heart failure last year

Last year saw a startling increase in the number of deaths from heart failure. Of the 753,100 citizens of the Federal Republic of Germany who died in 1976, a total of 200,000 died as a result of heart ailments.

According to statistics just released by the Federal Statistical Office in Wiesbaden covering the past year, the number of deaths from heart ailments increased by 8,000 over 1975. Women were more affected than men.

Compared with 1975, the year with the highest death rate since the end of the war (749,300), the number of deaths last year dropped by 2.2 per cent.

A total of 346,000, or roughly 47 per cent of deaths, were due to ailments of the circulatory system. Next on the list of causes of death are malignant tumours (cancer) where the figures remained approximately the same as in 1975. Cancer accounted for 152,600 or 20.8 per cent of deaths. Malignant tumours of the respiratory system ranked at the top with 25,700 fatalities.

There was a slight drop in unnatural causes of death in 1976, the figure being 47,000. Accidents involving a fall accounted for 10,800 deaths, and 14,400 people died in traffic accidents.

The suicide trend continued in 1976. The number of suicides rose from 12,900 in 1975 to 13,350 in 1976.

ddp

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 28 May 1977)

SCIENCE

Geography no longer merely a depiction of the Earth

Several thousand geographers from the German speaking countries met in Mainz at the beginning of June for the biannual German Geograpers' Congress.

The congress dealt not only with questions of geography education in schools. Its main purpose was to provide a review of topics with which geography deals today. The Federal Republic of Germany alone has some 300 university professors and 450 other researchers engaged in geographic endeavours.

Although the public image of classical geography is still that of a science which essentially describes the world with a couple of "believe it or nots" thrown in, geography is clearly undergoing a process of change.

Traditional geography can no longer do justice to the expectations in its scientific function. In fact there has not even been a new geographical review of the Federal Republic of Germany since 1945.

Moreover, the question "what is geography actually supposed to describe and for whom is it meant to do so?" arises more and more frequently.

The entertainment media have meanwhile assumed the task of depicting "countries and people throughout the world" and they are in many ways superior competitors to the geographers.

Science itself has many institutes which focus their attention on inter-disciplinary regional and country research.

Neither the argument of greater scientific accuracy, which is frequently used with regard to competition from the media, nor the argument that geography is in a better position to oversee the interplay of many factors is a convincing one for the outsider.

For some years geography has been confronted with a number of important developments. These led to the emergence of two focal points in geographic research which can best be summed up as "regional-scientific" and as "geo-ecological".

These two terms have the term "space" in common — in the one instance more as a counterpart to Man and, in the other, as the two-dimensional earth-surface "receptacle" of human life which, depending on vantage point and region, induces an interplay across geographic distances.

Geographers whose interests — due to training — centre primarily around the ecological view of the landscape system evolved a system of interplay between soil, climate, shape of landscape, bodies of water and vegetation, frequently taking into account actual or possible human interference. Their subjects are the "biosphere", economy of water supply, relief formation processes in various climatic areas and equilibrium conditions for agricultural systems.

The other view, the so-called cultural and social geographers, attempts to analyse the organisation of social and economic regions. Their research subjects range from behavioural attitudes of individuals or ethnic groups, their shopping and nearby recreation attitudes (as for instance travel) all the way to explanations for the structure of space division for entire civilisations ... from borough to city via region and nation, and on to a world economic system.

These geographers engage in industrial geography and metropolitan research and occupy themselves with regional development planning.

But many questions which play a major role in these new concepts are still disputed.

There are for instance difficulties with regard to the so-called "quantitative revolution", namely the use of modern and exact procedures — especially where statistics are concerned — as tools for the new generation of geographers.

With our geographers having had to cope with the over-rating of some elements on the one hand and defensive reactions on the other concerning scale theory, multidimensional statistics and other methods, it is now becoming more and more apparent that it is not so much the use of quantitative methods themselves as the manner in which questions are posed — in other words the forming of a theory that can serve as a basis — which are becoming the most important subjects of discussion concerning methods.

Equally disputed remains the demand for uniformity in view of the bifurcation of the two abovementioned interest groups.

Their representatives already have more opportunity of exchanging views with other natural scientists on the one hand and sociologists on the other than do their fellow geographers.

There are many arguments for and against traditional unity. It can be taken as certain that the individual cannot keep abreast of both disciplines, which would be tantamount to adhering to an obsolete ideal.

The desire for large-scale and indeed world-wide comparisons of regional situations wherever possible, which has its roots in geographical tradition, must remain a mere programme due to the limits of any research potential — no matter how valuable its realisation.

Meanwhile, there is less controversy about the question whether research should orientate itself by the future or by the past.

The restriction to the depiction of the present which should be the guarantor of objectivity in science was formerly considered indispensible. But now historic developments also play a role — as for instance in the case of the development of valleys through millions of years or medieaval cities.

Under the impact of "applied geography", the congress also discussed the geographers' increasingly evident occupation with trend forecasts, planning blueprints for the environment and regional planning.

These shifts in emphasis will still have to be mastered, and this will depend not only on goodwill, but also on the practical experience of university teachers in dealing with such problems within the framework of political realities.

The development of geography as a university subject will largely depend on the decisions of university teachers in the years to come.

But outside influences by state educational policies and by commissioned research projects will also have their effect. Moreover, competition with related subjects cannot fail to have a favourable or adverse effect.

Intensive teaching at our universities with some 30,000 geography students at present will obviously leave a mark on research.

If the course of study is to culminate in a diploma for future regional, state and city planners, teaching and research would have to be better coordinated — an aim which is particularly stressed by professional geographers.

Most students aim to become future geography teachers which obviously has its effect on the manner in which geography is taught at university — and rightly so, since the education of a geography teacher must be purpose-oriented.

The Training Commission of the Association of Geography Teachers has already worked out complete proposals for a university curriculum which comes very close to the present trends in geographic research. But no matter how fortuitous, this fact is not fully appreciated by some geographers who still stick to the independence ideal of "free" research.

Hans Meister

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 2 June 1977)

Research facilities satisfactory at universities

The majority of university teachers in the Federal Republic of Germany are satisfied with present scientific research facilities. At the same time, two-thirds of university professors and instructors favour a lifting of restrictions in order to accommodate the mass of students resulting from high birth-rate years.

These findings are contained in the 1976/77 winter semester report by the Infratest Research Institute based on polls conducted among teachers at universities, training colleges and specialised institutions of higher learning.

The report has just been issued by the Federal Minister of Education and Vocational Training, Helmut Rhode.

These polls were conducted simultaneously with polls by the Allensbach Institute, although the two institutes arrived at different conclusions.

Infratest failed to find the resigned attitude and the negative assessment of research facilities to which Allensbach arrived.

According to Infratest, 52 per cent of the research staff termed the facilities available to them "good to very good", 30 per cent "nor so good" and 18 per cent "bad".

Minister Rhode stressed that in view of these facts it can hardly be said that the work of our universities in the research sector is in jeopardy.

According to Infratest — and contrary to the subjective impression of university teachers — the "across the board teaching performance" (including the preparation for lectures and the necessary post-lecture work) has not improved, but diminished in the past few years.

The polls also show — again contrary to subjective views — that administrative work does not take up more time than in 1974.

All in all, the time which university teaching staff (excluding medical schools) spends for research work amounts to 31 per cent, with 55 per cent going into teaching and 13 per cent into administrative work. This is exactly the same as in previous years.

dpa

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 2 June 1977)

■ TOURISM

Holiday isle's railway across the water is 50 years old

Sylt's fifty-year-old Hindenburgdamm railway embankment link with the mainland is 11.2 kilometres (seven miles) long. It is fifty metres (164ft) wide at base, eleven metres (35ft) wide on top and 7.5 metres (24ft 7in) in elevation. It took 3.2 million cubic metres of earth to build, not to mention 30,000 tons of stone, mainly basalt and granite, that were shipped from Silesia and the Rhineland. The embankment alone cost 18.5 million reichsmarks. Once the outer piles had been driven, the armada of thirty sailing ships, twenty barges and three tugs that had carried earth and stone to and fro was replaced by a field railway that gradually crossed the mud flats that separate the North Sea holiday isle from the Schleswig-Holstein mainland.

On 15 May 1927 a local journalist hailed the Hindenburgdamm railway embankment between the North Sea holiday isle of Sylt and the mainland of Schleswig-Holstein as a triumph of civil engineering that had few parallels anywhere on Earth.

The seven-mile link with the mainland took four years to build and ways formally inaugurated on 1 June fifty years ago, but the idea dates back to at least 1876, when Michael Marcus, a Sylt balneologist, enthusiastically advocated the proposal.

The new road, as local people tended to call it, marked the beginning of a new era for Westerland and the other island spas, for Kampen, Wenningstedt, Keitum and List, Munkmarsch and Morsum, a Berliner who attended the inauguration ceremony enthused.

As the special train packed with celebrities including President Hindenburg rolled leisurely along the track to the island railhead at Westerland, Sylt ceased to be an island.

Countless trains have since followed. Since the Second World War cars have also crossed to the island by rail, nearly five million of them!

This invasion has robbed the island resorts of some of the exclusive air for which they were renowned. Sylt was opened up to the common man — and his wife and kids!

Yet the island managed somehow or other to remain the favourite North Sea holiday haunt of the upper crust and a rendezvous for the jet set both in this country and elsewhere in Europe.

The idea of building an embankment to link the island with the mainland is much older, of coure. It dates back more than a century to 1856, when Westerland was in the process of making a name for itself as a bathing resort.

C. P. Hansen, a Keitum teacher, reckoned that an embankment to the mainland would not only be a convenient link, but also aid land reclamation.

He came in for more than his fair share of ridicule, needless to say, but he was also encouraged from an unexpected quarter. Postmaster-General Heinrich von Stephan, who frequently spent holidays on the island, felt the project was feasible and offered several million marks in Post Office funds towards the cost of the scheme.

Sylt balneologist Dr Michael Marcus went into greater detail. In his *Westerland, the North Sea Holiday Resort*, published just a century ago, he enthusiastically argued his case.

"It may be a costly project, but it will prove an important one and pay interest and compound interest," Dr Marcus claimed. "The embankment would be gradually silted up to form a peninsula.

"Island folk are all in favour of the idea. One can but hope that it will be implemented sooner or later. The resorts would rapidly prosper if there were a rail link, although the proposal may appear wishful thinking as yet."

Dr Marcus was not the man to make do with wishful thinking. He organised a petition to the Altona-Kiel Railway Co. that was signed by the entire population of Westerland.

But railway accountants and engineers remained dubious. Dr Marcus was proved right in forecasting that "years will no doubt elapse before the idea is put into practice."

Not until 1910 did the Prussian government commission a survey to investigate the possibility of building a railway embankment to link the six thousand islanders with the mainland.

The First World War put paid to the scheme, but although it was shelved it did not disappear. Too many people had grown convinced that it was a good idea.

Besides, in 1920 there were strong political motives for pressing ahead with the project. A plebiscite was soon to be held to decide whether or not North Schleswig was to revert to Denmark and the embankment proposal seemed tailormade to canvass German votes.

Sylt did indeed remain German — all, that is, but the mainland harbour from which ferries set out for the island.

The result was that holidaymakers bound for one or other of the island's resorts (and they still included many VIPs among their number) had to pass through a Danish corridor and time-consuming passport and customs controls before embarking on the four-hour ferry trip to Sylt.

In 1921, despite the perils of galloping inflation, the authorities finally decided to build the embankment. It seemed a courageous decision in the circumstances.

A site office was opened in 1922 and in 1923, shortly before hyperinflation ran riot with the reichsmark, construction work began at the mainland end of the proposed embankment.

In 1925 earthworks began from the island itself, and later that year the two ends met. At one stage up to 1,500 builders worked day and night on the project.

In those days it was a gigantic scheme. The men worked in all weathers. Many of them collapsed from exhaustion. With inflation raging, no one had enough to eat and the wages paid were of little use.

Construction work was a non-stop battle against the elements, with one new technique after another being tried out. The entire project broke new ground as far as civil engineers were concerned.

Chief engineers Dr Hans Pfeifer and Heinrich Bremer were daily confronted with new problems and forced to abandon conventional methods in favour of new and more effective ideas.

On 30 August 1923 unexpected floods nearly put paid to the whole venture. Torrents of water carried away all but the foundations of construction work carried out thus far.

After the mopping-up operation work was abandoned, at least for the winter and maybe for good. But the newspapers reminded the government that the Reich had promised the islanders a railway link with the mainland.

Work was resumed in spring 1924 and a number of new ideas implemented. Piles were driven across the shallows as a breakwater to keep the tides and treacherous currents at bay.

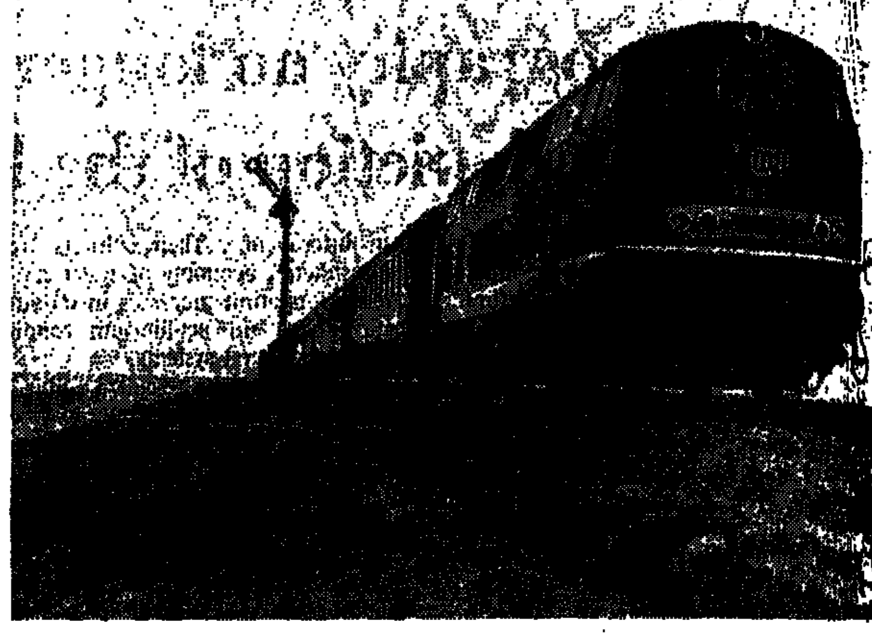
Slowly but surely the embankment took shape. When it was completed it was hailed as a masterpiece of German engineering and a tribute to German diligence and perseverance.

Fifty years have since elapsed and the link between Sylt and the mainland has brought prosperity, much as its advocates forecast a century ago. Indeed, it continues to do so.

The tourist trade has, however, assumed proportions the originators of the idea would never have anticipated. By commercial standards the North Sea holiday isle has undoubtedly grown more attractive, more up-to-date and more convenient in a multitude of ways.

Karl-Heinz Reischuk

(Kieler Nachrichten, 28 May 1977)



For half a century it has withstood the waves: the Hindenburgdamm

(Photo: Wilhelm Bartsch)

Bonn 'worth a visit'

Nearly everyone in this country feels Bonn is worth a visit, an annual conference, attended by 800 opinion pollsters told Bonn's Oberbürgermeister Hans Daniels.

Eighty-seven per cent of a cross-section of the general public reckoned the city is worth a visit, and 41 per cent did so mainly with a tour of government buildings in mind.

Fourteen per cent were keen to tour the city centre, including the picturesque Altstadt, and thirteen per cent just fancied the idea of walking by the banks of the Rhine.

A mere ten per cent are attracted to the city by specific sights, such as Beethoven' birthplace, while still fewer — six per cent — are tempted by a glimpse of politicians at work or the Bundestag in session.

(Die Welt, 27 May 1977)

The two-wheeler is gaining in popularity

For some time bicycles and two-wheelers in general have been selling like hot cakes. What, envious competitors wonder, are the reasons for the boom? Why have cycling holidays and moped tours suddenly grown fashionable?

Manufacturers are at no loss for an answer. Cyclists, they claim, want to get off the beaten track. They recall the carefree days when a bicycle was all they had; or are motivated simply by the desire to keep fit.

Even the holiday trade is increasingly catering for tourists on two wheels. For holidaymakers who prefer to take a little more luggage with them without overstraining the calf and thigh muscles there is, moreover, the moped.

The average moped cruises along at between twenty and 25 miles an hour at 140 miles per gallon. At many holiday resorts you can pay more for a soft drink than you do for a full moped tank.

A number of tourist authorities arrange tours with all-in prices including bed, breakfast and the hire of a bike. Münster's tours of moated castles in this part of Westphalia are fully booked.

Politicians are also keen to step on the bandwaggon, to mix metaphors. Cycle tracks are to be built within a radius of twenty miles of Munich, and there are similar plans for Augsburg and Nuremberg.

In the first three months of this year two-wheeler sales were up 28 per cent on the same period last year. The average figure for retail trade as a whole was a mere nine per cent.

More than one million bicycles were wheeled off the assembly lines — an increase of twenty per cent. The figure for mopeds, scooters and motorcycles was 102,000, an increase of 36 per cent. The number of mopeds manufactured was up a third to 53,239.

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 26 May 1977)

■ SPORT

Cha-cha-cha – 3:1 win for national team against Argentina

With a year to go to the World Cup tournament in Argentina this country's soccer team, the reigning world champions, started their tour of South and Central America with a heartening 3:1 defeat of Argentina in Buenos Aires.

Before a packed house Klaus Fischer headed two balls into the opponents' net and Bernd Hölzenbein made it three-nil before the Argentinians, who were perfect in technique, but tended to go it alone, managed to score their consolation goal.

Four days later the team were due to play Uruguay in Montevideo.

By and large the Federal Republic team played one of their best games since winning the World Cup three years ago in Munich. The crowd were quick to applaud good moves by the visiting team.

In this first game of the South American tour the team delighted a crowd that is used to good football by fighting fast and furiously.

Rolf Rüssmann of Schalke 04, runners-up in the Bundesliga, was in first-rate form and proved himself a mainstay of the back division.

Schalke players had a field day among the forwards too. Rüdiger Abramczyk was in sparkling form reminiscent of his illustrious predecessor "Stan" Libuda, while Klaus Fischer, who scored two goals, must surely have persuaded coach Helmut Schön that he is the man to take over from goal-scoring ace Gerd Müller.

On more than one occasion both Fischer and Abramczyk were only stopped in the last minute by ferocious tackling, otherwise Argentina would surely have lost by an even higher margin.

In midfield Bernd Hölzenbein ran for all he was worth, eventually scoring the third goal. Karl-Heinz Rummenigge, who was substituted for Erich Beer towards the end of the game, also showed impressive speed and ball control.

Rainer Bonhof initially had trouble with Vila, his opposite number, but eventually got the better of him.

"At half-time I was worried that the team might not be able to sustain the pace. They had had little time to acclimatise, after all. They certainly did us proud," said assistant coach Jupp Derwall, who together with Helmut Schön congratulated every player individually after the final whistle.

"I had expected an action-packed afternoon," said goalie Bernd Franke, who let in the first goal of his international career, but his backs gave sterling service.

Fullback Berti Vogts tired out both opposing players who set out to mark him, while Manfred Kaltz again staked his claim to take over the customary role of Franz Beckenbauer.

Bernhard Dietz had trouble with Bertoni, but in no way cut a poor figure. It was the first time the team had played in this formation in midfield and the forwards, but there were few signs of misunderstanding.

On two occasions Psarella and goalie Gatti only managed to stop Abramczyk and Fischer by dint of blatant fouls. The yellow card was rightly flashed at both.

Bernhard Dietz was also given a warning after a foul on Bertoni. "Bertoni was a really tough customer. I was afraid of going in hard because the referee was forever blowing his whistle," Dietz commented on the man who was without a shadow of doubt the Argentinians' most dangerous forward.

"In good time," Argentinian coach Luis Cesar Menotti ungrudgingly admitted, "we have been taught a lesson in modern football."

Yet Argentina were by no means in poor form. The weekend before they trounced Poland 3:1.

There were some tough battles on the field of play, but once the final whistle went all was forgotten. Players swapped jerseys.

"Good luck on the rest of the tour and Auf Wiedersehen next year. You have made good friends in Argentina," coach Menotti added.

(Neue Ruhr Zeitung, 6 June 1977)



Klaus Fischer heading the ball into the net to score this country's first goal in the match against Argentina (Photo: dpa)

Overath calls it a day

On Whit Monday Cologne soccer star Wolfgang Overath's outstanding career ended in anti-climax. "I am delighted Cologne have won. That is all I have to say," he commented in Hanover after watching the team win the replay of the Federal Republic FA Cup final.

A fortnight after what, officially, had been his final game as Cologne's captain he would have been only too happy to take home one last winner's medal, but coach Hennes Weisweiler had made it clear the day before that Overath would not be playing.

"There is no love lost between us. He said I would not be playing, so I chose to decline selection as a substitute," the 33-year-old veteran of 81 games for his country noted.

Two days beforehand he was acclaimed by well over 20,000 fans from his home town but did not see the ball for the first six minutes. There could be no mistaking coach Weisweiler's ruling that Heinz Flohe was to take over command.

In the replay Herbert Neumann, who played in Overath's place, was no better and no worse than the oldtimer, but Wolfgang Overath has now retired for good as far as this country is concerned.

He will, however, be taking part in the club's tour of Japan. "After all the club have done for me, including the testimonial game, it was my bounden duty to do so," he says.

But the Weisweiler saga is over as far as Overath goes. "We have nothing more to say to one another." *sid*

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 1 June 1977)



Liverpool star Kevin Keegan signing the contract for his transfer to Hamburg

(Photo: dpa)

DM2.3 mill. for 'Mighty Mouse' Kevin Keegan

SV Hamburg have signed Kevin Keegan, captain of European Cup winners Liverpool, for 2.3 million deutschmarks, including his estimated earnings over the two-year term of the Mighty Mouse's contract.

Hamburg, who won their European Cup in Amsterdam, have also signed Ivan Buljan of Hajduk Split. But Kevin Keegan's transfer is the most spectacular and expensive ever negotiated by a German club.

"I am keen to come to Hamburg and already looking forward to the move. It is an attractive city that reminds me of London and I am sure the Hamburg club are still going places," the 26-year-old diminutive Merseyside star commented.

In less than two hours Keegan agreed on terms with Hamburg's manager, Peter Krohn, and treasurer Helmut Kallmann in the twenty-third storey of a Hamburg hotel. He then went to the Hamburg club's doctor, Ulrich Mann, for a medical.

Keegan earned 120,000 deutschmarks a year at Anfield. He will be earning roughly three times that in Hamburg.

Kevin Keegan has been capped 28 times for England and in the season that has just drawn to a close captained both England and Liverpool.

Neither he nor Hamburg anticipate any difficulties in acclimatisation, although Keegan will be the first English club player ever to transfer to this country.

Keegan is mainly attracted by the money. Soccer is, after all, his profession. "I reckon he should fit in well," says Hamburg's captain, Peter Nogly.

SV Hamburg, who are paying 550,000 marks for Buljan, too, aim to stay at the top next season, if possible adding the league championship to their trophies.

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 31 May 1977)